National Anti-Slavery Standard.

SYDNEY HOWARD GAY, EDITOR. WITHOUT CONCEALMENT....WITHOUT COMPROMISE. EDMUND QUINCY, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

VOL. XIII. NO. 29. NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1852. WHOLE NO. 653.

Published weekly, on Thursday, by the AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, at their office, No. 142 NASSAU STREET, NEW-YORK. Terms, Two DOLLARS per annum. Printed for the American Anti-Slavery Society, by NORRIS & JOHNSTON, printers, No. 21 Spruce street.

The Southern Press, South.

PREVENTING ESCAPE OF SLAVES AND RECOVERY OF FUGITIVES.

To the Editor of The Maysville Eagle.

AUGUSTA, Monday, Nov. 8, 1852.

I UNDERSTAND a mass meeting, consisting of the Slaveholders of the Counties of Mason and Bracken, are to meet at Minerva, on the 16th inst., to take some steps for the further protection of Slavery in the two counties I cheerfully concur in the propriety of the proposed meeting, and trust you will urge, through your paper, a general attendance.

A recent trip through Ohio, thence to Canada, in pursuit of fugitives, has enabled me to collect such information as is calculated to excite our alarm for the safety of our slaves, and for the great importance of some well matured and disciplined code of procedure in pursuing and arresting them. During a part of the week I remained in Sandusky, upward of thirty fugitives crossed the Lake. On my way to Malden, the captain of the Arrow, running from Sandusky to Detroit, told me that in the last two months *over two hundred* had crossed from the State of Kentucky alone I have just received a letter from Mr. Sroupe, upon the border of the Lake, who states that the number crossing is nightly increasing, and on Monday night last *eighteen* crossed at a single trip; the same week forty-odd crossed at Cleveland.

Take the losses of the Counties of Mason, Bracken, Pendleton and Boone, amounting to *seventy odd slaves*, and you will readily perceive, allowing a fair allowance from other counties, what an immense loss the State has sustained in the last months. Out of the seventy odd slaves from the above counties, I believe only three have been taken in the State of Ohio.

The night I crossed the Lake to Canada, there were several fugitives upon the boat. As soon as the boat was under way, I introduced myself (as who or what I will not say for the present) to a shrewd, sensible negro, who proved to be from Louisville, and was the property of Mr. Ford, of Owenton. I will pass over the narrative of his trip, which was peculiarly interesting to me, except to say, that he broke the lock of a skiff at a saw-mill above Louisville, crossed in it, made his way to Cincinnati, there took the cars and landed at Sandusky, in a week from the time he left. I inquired of this boy what influence was brought to bear on him to induce him to run away; whether free negroes, or *my white friends* from Ohio, travelling in Kentucky, had advised him the course to pursue. To this inquiry I could not get a satisfactory answer, nor could I from any with whom I talked. He said frankly, however, that he had intended to run off ever since they took the *vote in the State* whether the negroes should be *free* or *not*, meaning the Emancipation move. I inquired if the negroes generally were not pretty well satisfied, and said but little about running off. He told me that nearly all he knew of were making up their minds to leave; several wanted to go with him and his wife, but he told them to scatter out, or so many together *would be caught*. He remarked that he had found out it was "*wrong to serve a master*," and that the "*reading negroes* told him it was against the Bible." He further stated, that next summer there would be an "awful lumbering of the darkies to the free grounds." In my intercourse with the negroes in Malden, who had lately crossed, I gathered the same ideas. A young boy and his wife from Poplar Plains, Respass' boy from Maysville, and others, told me, if not *this month*, next summer there would be a "general rush." If this information was from a single negro, it might be questionable; but as the same ideas in reference to leaving, and the determination of their acquaintances to follow, come from different ones, and from different sections, we may rightfully apprehend that some disastrous under-current has been at work in the State, which we, as slaveholders, must meet, and *meet it now*.

I feel it to be my duty, on account of the uncertainty of my professional engagements, to communicate thus much to those who may compose the meeting, for their sober reflection, and to contribute my hasty reflections, as to the plans by which we may better secure ourselves against the immense loss which seems to threaten our counties. I can only state for the present a few suggestions, which I hope, if not feasible in themselves, may give some hint or idea to others who can better develop a more secure one. Allow me to suggest,

1: That each county, or the different precincts of each county (the latter I prefer for convenience), form themselves into Societies composed of slaveholders; each Society to be organized by a President, Secretary and Treasurer.

2: Let all, or as many of the slaveholders of each county or precint as will, join the Society.

3: Let the Society appoint a suitable number of discreet, prudent and energetic men, whose duty it shall be, when any member of the Society has lost a slave, to pursue them forthwith in the most efficient and persevering manner, as far and as long as they in their judgment may deem necessary.

4: Let there be a separate Committee, whose duty it shall be to take an *invoice* of the slaves belonging to each member of the Society, and report the same to the Society.

5: When a slave escapes from any member of the Society, let there be a tax levied upon each member of the Society (or a standing fund), in proportion to their respective interests, sufficient to carry into liberal and energetic prosecution the capture of said slave or slaves.

6: If thought advisable, let a portion of said Capturing Committee be appointed from among non-slaveholders, who are known to be efficient and favourable to the cause.

7: If said slave or slaves should be captured and brought back, or said owner, by virtue of the "Fugitive Slave Law," recover compensation for his slave or slaves, then the amount levied upon each member of the Society is to be paid back by the owner of said slave or slaves, and the said owner to bear all the expense incident to the prosecution and capture; otherwise, the members of the Society to bear the expense in proportion to their *involved* stock.

8: Let the pursuing *posse* have a stipulated reward, provided they capture and bring back said slave or slaves, as a further incentive, and that they be required to familiarize themselves with the bearing of the "Fugitive Slave Law," so far as is necessary to give it practical efficiency.

9: That the pursuing *posse* shall not be allowed to pursue any individual's slave from our own county who is not a member of said Society.

10: That this Society will pay three hundred dollars reward to any citizen of Ohio for each and every slave they will deliver to the owner of said slave, who is a member of this Society, and for such information as will enable this Society or its Committee to capture any slave or slaves belonging to members of this Society, fifty dollars will be paid for each slave captured. The reward in either case to come out of the owner.

In pursuing fugitives at present, I find two leading difficulties to contend with: one is to get the right kind of men to follow them without paying their expenses independent of the reward; the other is, to avoid indiscreet persons who only follow a day or two in a kind of boisterous frolic—who abuse every person they come across, whether Abolitionists or not, and not unfrequently threaten to burn every town in their view. While I may admire the warm ardour of those persons in pursuit, I must be allowed to condemn their manner of carrying it out.

With my little experience, I can tell slaveholders, once for all, that if their slaves run away it will take money to get them; and if you are without any system or disciplined plan in pursuing them, I would not give a farthing for your chance. There is throughout this State a dangerous influence being exerted over the minds of the slaves. It becomes us, then, as Kentuckians, and especially as slaveholders of the border Counties, to realize the identity which subsists between us; our interest is kindred in its character; we have a common interest to subserve; and if we falter at the present crisis, our agriculture and the price of our lands must pay the penalty.

I intended to say a word as to the comparative condition of the fugitives in Canada, and the slaves in Kentucky; the former with their "pale ash-coloured freedom," the latter with their native glossy skin, &c. &c., but have unexpectedly gone beyond my limits. I did not hear of the meeting until Saturday, and distrusting my chances of being there, I concluded with Sir William Temple. "That if I am not able to inform men more than they know, I trust I have given them cause to consider more than they do." A SLAVEHOLDER.

MEETING OF THE SLAVEHOLDERS OF MASON AND BRACKEN COUNTIES.

AT a meeting of the citizens of Mason and Bracken counties, held at Minerva, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., for the purpose of devising means to secure the slave property of Kentucky, James Pepper, Esq., was called to the chair, and Thomas B. Stevenson, J. Taylor Bradford and Lewis Hawkins, were appointed Secretaries.

The Chairman having explained the object of the meeting, upon motion of W. C. Marshall, a committee of ten were appointed by the chair to present a plan of action, whereupon the chair appointed Abraham Bledsoe, Richard Soward, Arthur Fox, Jr., Wm. Slack and Alfred Soward, of Mason; and W. C. Marshall, J. Taylor Bradford, Jos. Doniphan, John Fee, and W. Dilse, of Bracken, who, having retired for consultation, finally presented the following plan:

Whereas, it has become absolutely necessary for the slave owners of Kentucky to take such steps as will secure their property, we, the citizens of Mason and Bracken, do recommend to the people of Kentucky the following as the most available plan to accomplish this end:

1. That each county in this State, and more especially the river counties, form themselves into societies composed of slaveholders, having for its object the protection of slave property, each society to be organized by the appointment of a President, Secretary and Treasurer.

2. Let each Society appoint a number of discreet, prudent, and energetic men, whose duty it shall be—upon the notice to the President—when any member of the Society has lost a slave or slaves, to pursue them forthwith in the most efficient manner, as far and as long as they in their judgment may deem necessary.

3. Let there be a Committee appointed, whose duty it shall be to take an invoice of all the slaves belonging to each member of the Society, and report the same to the Association.

4. Let there be a permanent fund raised upon an advalorem principle, to be used by the pursuing committee under the control of the Society, whenever a slave or slaves shall escape from any member of this Association.

5. If thought advisable, let the Pursuing Committee be selected from among slaveholders or non-slaveholders, all of whom are known to be efficient and favourable to the cause.

6. If any slave or slaves should be captured and brought back to Kentucky, or the owner thereof, by virtue of the "Fugitive Slave Law," receive any compensation for his slaves, then the amount expended by the Society to effect either of these ends is to be paid back by the owner to the Association: provided, however, that the amount to be paid back by the owner shall in no wise exceed the value of the slave or slaves, otherwise to be paid by the Society.

7. Let the Pursuing Committee, as a further stimulus to act, have a stipulated reward for the capture of any slaves they may arrest and deliver to his owner; which in no case were taken out of the State of Kentucky, shall exceed one-fourth of their appraised value, or, if taken in Kentucky, one hundred dollars; and said Pursuing Committee be required to familiarize themselves with the operations of the "Fugitive Slave Law." This reward to be paid by the owner.

8. That the Pursuing Committee shall not be allowed to pursue the slave or slaves of any person not a member of the society of the county.

9. That this Society will pay two hundred dollars to a citizen of a non-slaveholding State who shall arrest and deliver to this Association any negro who has escaped from a member of this Society; provided the said slave is over sixteen years of age, and, if under that age, one hundred dollars; or if any such citizen will give such information as will enable the Society or its Pursuing Committee to arrest and bring back any slave, for each and every slave so arrested, the sum of fifty dollars—to be returned in either case by the owner to the Society.

10. That we recommend to the County Court of each County bordering on the Ohio River, the adoption of the special Patrol law.

All of which, after some remarks by Messrs. Marshall, Stevenson and Doniphan, were adopted.

Upon motion of Col. A. Soward, it was Resolved, That the *Maysville Eagle*, *Watchman* and *Kentucky Flag* be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting, and the meeting adjourned.

JAMES PEPPERS, Chairman.

T. B. STEVENSON, J. P. BRADFORD, L. HAWKINS, } Secretaries.

—*Georgetown (Ky.) Herald.*

IMPORTANT SLAVE CASE.

THE decision of Judge Paine, in the recent slave case of New York, is well calculated to produce a ferment in the minds of the Southern people. It is an important adjudication upon the rights of slaveholders as secured, or which they supposed were secured, to them under the Federal compact. In the present case, the owners of the eight slaves thus declared free and liberated, were *in transitu* with them from Virginia to Texas, both slave States. They availed themselves of the port of New York as a point of departure to their destination, which was their only convenient mode of reaching it. It was, in effect, a necessity carrying them to and through that port, and they should have been awarded a safe and hospitable transit. On the contrary they have been robbed, under the sanction of law, much to the delight of the Abolitionists. They have fared no better with their property than if their journey had been through the wild country of the roving and plundering Arab tribes, or thieving bands of Camanches. The decision, which we have not room for to-day, indicates much legal acumen, and is an elaborate effort to divest the South of rights which the comity of nations, even in the absence of constitutional guarantees, should have held sacred, and which the Federal Constitution intended to secure. To have rifled the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon, of their slave property, under forms of law, who a palpable violation of the spirit of the Constitution, and of the manifest understanding of the parties in forming the Federal Union. When that Constitution was formed, slaves were property in New York, and recognised as such. No one can believe that the Southern States would have consented to that Union, if it was thus to be used as an engine of fraud, injustice and violence, under the forms of legal proceedings. If such are to be tolerated and perpetuated by its highest judicial tribunals, it requires no prophet to foretell the discontents they will engender, and the measures which will grow out of them still further to weaken, perhaps to snap, the common bond of brotherhood, already so rudely strained.

We copy two articles from the New York press—one from the *Day Book*, the other from the *Herald*—detailing the facts of the case, and commenting on them, we are pleased to see, in the right spirit.

If the same spirit should animate the people of that State, their Legislature will promptly restore the following provision of their Revised Statutes, which was repealed in 1841, under the impulses, no doubt, of that Anti-Slavery fanaticism which has of late years unhappily run riot in the Empire State:

"Any person not being an inhabitant of this State, who shall be travelling to or from, or passing through this State, may bring with him any person lawfully held by him in Slavery, and may take such person with him from this State; but the person so held in Slavery shall not reside or continue in this State more than nine months; and if such residence be continued beyond that time, such person shall be free."

This would be no more than a proper spirit of fraternity, and a patriotic and honest regard for the true meaning and intent of the Federal compact. It would at once circumvent the Abolitionists, and put to a *non plus* the ingenuity of their hired counsel and of Anti Slavery judges.

If this reasonable claim upon our confederate be repudiated, just ground is afforded for retaliatory legislation on the part of the slaveholding States. This war of hostile enactments aiming to create as much annoyance and injury to each other as possible, would soon sever the Union effectually and forever.

When the spirit of Union is fled, the Union itself cannot long survive.—*Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist.*

"THE CABIN AND PARLOUR."

MR. T. B. PETERSON, 97 and 98 Chesnut street, Philadelphia, has sent us a copy of "The Cabin and Parlour," by J. Thornton Randolph—a work of fiction designed as an antidote to "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and superior to it as a nouvelette. Indeed, the author evinces descriptive powers almost equal to those of Dickens; and seldom have we read a more moving and exciting story. The contrast between "Uncle Tom" and "The Cabin and the Parlour," so far as we have had an opportunity to judge of the former, we think the Southern side has much the best of it; but still it may well be doubted whether this mode of warfare is likely to result in the end advantageously to the South. The teeming press and thousand industrious professional writers of the North, who are watching argus-eyed for every opportunity to get up a saleable book, seem to hold out but an unequal race in any appeal to the prejudices of mankind, through works of fiction, on the subject of African Slavery. The publisher, in his printed circular, accompanying this copy of "The Cabin and Parlour," says, "Fiction must be undermined by Fiction." We do not suppose he means to lay this down as a *general* proposition; for, if so, there would certainly be no further use for *truth*. The most persevering and ingenious liar would bear away the palm. But granting he only means to say, that fictious sketches of Southern life and institutions, by Abolitionists, whose ignorance of the subject is aided by a sordid and malevolent purpose, a prurient imagination and a lying pen, must be met by Southern men in works of a similar character, designed to dispel prejudice, why, then, it seems to us, he has devolved upon the South a task to which we must bring comparatively inadequate appliances and an immense disparity in the number of workmen. The North, too, would get ahead of us in the use of bad material, and a much more latitudinous resort to *fiction*; and after all, what one *fact* would be established in the controversy? It may, indeed, be very desirable to combat and dispel prejudice, but that which can be successfully reached by these myths of the fancy, is not probably of a very inveterate or dangerous character.

On the whole, therefore, although regarding Mr. Randolph's work as much more than a counter-blast to "Uncle Tom's Cabin," we are sorry the latter was not quietly suffered to tumble down of its own rottenness. We are annoyed by the fact that it has called forth so much notice from Southern men; for nothing can gratify the scamps who pander by their tracts to the Abolition sentiment of the North, so much as any evidence that they are setting the South in a fume.

A most unpleasant odour already pervades "Uncle Tom's Cabin," to Northern noses at all sensitive.

Most intelligent persons there appear to regard it as a mere pander to ignorance and prejudice, and the correspondence between the authoress, her brother and the Rev. Dr. Parker, establishes that the former do not feel inclined to confine their *fictions* altogether to the subject of Slavery. She slandered Dr. P., a most estimable preacher, in her "Cabin," and when induced, at last, by threat of prosecution has been guilty of the small additional trespass of putting and publishing Dr. Parker's name to a note professing satisfaction, which he never wrote, signed nor authorized to be signed. It is a most extraordinary transaction considering the parties, and the guilt of it is not mitigated by the ostentatiously pious style of Rev. H. W. Beecher's (the brother's) appeal to the public, to believe him, against Dr. P.'s statement of the contrary, that the signature was authorized. Now, a genuine Uncle Tom might occasionally mistake Massa's hen-coop for his own, and perfume his cabin with the savory odour of meat to which he had not taken care to establish a legal title; but no Uncle Tom would say grace over a stolen joint, or be caught in such a scrape as that which calls forth the extraordinary piety of his exponents.—*The (Tallahassee) Florida Sentinel.*

ST. DOMINGO AND CUBA.

WE have published the rumours from the North of an expedition which is said to be in progress, and about to start from the United States for an invasion of the island of Cube. Notwithstanding the positiveness of these assertions, we doubt whether there is anything in the story at all which does not arise out of the scheme for colonisation in St. Domingo, of which notices have appeared in the island newspapers. We published one of them in our last evening's paper. Out of the suspicion that this project covers a secret organization against Cuba, and that it is designed to rendezvous only in St. Domingo, with the intention to make the attack from that quarter, has probably arisen the report that there is also a Cuban enterprise organized. We suspect there is but one, and that the St. Domingo movement is the only one on foot. Of the existence of that there is no room to doubt. Vessels are loading and clearing in several Atlantic ports for ports in St. Domingo, and late arrivals from the island report that they are making extensive preparations there for the reception of several hundred men from the United States.

There is no doubt such an arrangement has been made. Indeed, Gen. Duff Greer, whose name has been mixed up with so many public enterprises during the last quarter of a century, has published a letter explanatory of the whole affair, the grounds for undertaking it, and the wide influence it is expected to have, not in changing the present political condition of the Island of Cuba—for he declares that he has had no sympathy or connection with any projects of invasion—but in preventing what he apprehends a dangerous extension of the dominion of the black race in the West Indies. He charges, in fact, that there is an agreement in existence between France and Great Britain to sustain the black Emperor Soulouque against the white republic of the Dominicans in the island, and that they have it in view that he shall subjugate the whole island to his sway, and afterward other West India islands.

It would be their choice that Cuba should rather fall into his hands than into those of the United States. This scheme of a powerful black empire in the West Indies he attributes to a spirit of hostility towards the United States, and certainly such a neighbourhood to these Southern States would be an intolerable nuisance, to be abolished at all hazards. The signs of such a purpose Gen. Green thinks that he discovered a long time ago, and he has been urgent with our Government to commence a countervailing movement, by recognising the independence of Dominica and establishing such relations with them as will give them the countenance of the nation, and strengthen them against the apprehended invasion. The Government has not thus far sympathized with Gen. Green's fears or his projects, and he has accordingly, with some associates, entered into a colonisation contract with the Dominican authorities for the purpose of introducing there a body of Americans. The extent and terms of his contract are not stated, but from the facts first mentioned, it appears to be in the process of execution. He complains, and urges as one of the proofs of the European combination in favour of Soulouque, that he has been constantly thwarted and opposed in his project by French and English emissaries, who make an interest in upholding the projects of a black empire.

This is doubtless the affair to which so much allusion has been made as a real Cuban expedition under preparation in this country. The Cuban intent is peremptorily denied. Yet, if it were true that such an ultimate purpose exists, there is nothing, we believe, in the laws of the United States which would prohibit the sailing of the vessels so loaded. If this be a contract with the Dominicans for colonisation in that country, the Government of the United States could not interfere to stop the emigration of its citizens, who go voluntarily to settle in another country and under another Government. Gen. Green says that the Cabinet at Washington being consulted on the subject, have stated that they have no power to interfere to stop these vessels. We have now no sign of any interference with the vessels known to be loading at Boston, New York and Jacksonville, Fa.

What foundation there may be for the apprehensions expressed that Soulouque is to be patronized by European Governments in founding a black empire in the West Indies, to include Cuba if it shall be found necessary, we have no means of ascertaining. Some such rumours were abroad awhile ago, and Spanish writers at Madrid and the Spanish journals in this country darkly threatened that rather than yield the Island of Cuba to Americans, it would be given over to the dominion of the blacks, and possibly they may have in their minds some such desperate resolves. Whether these hints have any mutual connection or not, the Spanish threat begat the suspicion of a plot, or was itself a reflux of something already conceived and debated, is yet a mere matter of speculation.

For ourselves, we should discredit, prima facie, any connivance of Great Britain with such extensive schemes, which can only be effected after a war of extermination with the United States; while at this time it is obviously the anxious wish of the English people, as a matter of the most important interest, to draw closer their amicable and commercial relations with the United States. We doubt whether there is a single question pending between the two nations, which the British Government would not settle on the most liberal terms, rather than have a serious breach with this country, if the settlement were pursued with fairness, and in a tone not calculated to wound the pride of the nation. What France might do—under the influences of a brother potentate—for another Emperor is not so easily or safely anticipated—or what the madness of rage might induce the revengeful Spaniard to do, if driven by necessity to give up Cuba. But, we think, the interests of Great Britain may be depended upon to keep her out of such alliance.

Still, without assigning undue importance to these unauthenticated and overwrought details of a European combination to create a free negro empire in the West Indies, there is enough in the known position of the question, and the great importance of its relation to the United States, to merit the closest attention, and a watchfulness on the part of our authorities to discover and check immediately the tendencies to such a course as is predicted.—*N. O. Picayune.*

THE LAW OF COLOURED SEAMEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

SOME time ago we called attention to certain cases instituted in our courts for the purpose of testing the validity of our laws relating to coloured seamen. At that time we were led to believe that the opinion of the cabinet at Washington was adverse to the law of South Carolina, and that the cases for testing its validity were commenced with the approbation of the cabinet. Whether or not this impression be correct, it is certain that some of the defenders of the administration have heretofore taken ground against our law, and the administration itself has done nothing to prevent this interference of Great Britain with our police regulations. It must be well known to Mr. Fillmore and his constitutional advisers, that the British consul at Charleston, under cover of a treaty of Great Britain with the United States, denies our right to exclude from our ports certain persons whose presence we regard as dangerous to us, and that the process of the *federal* court has been used to test the question, in the Charleston district, for trespass against the owner of a private suit, but no concealment is made of the fact that it is no private matter; on the contrary, it is openly pressed by Mr. Mathew, her Majesty's consul, as an affair of State. Under these circumstances, the silence and non-interference of Mr. Fillmore's administration have reasonably led to the conclusion that it favoured the movement of the British consul, and doubts the right of this State to make her own police regulations, of the necessity of which she alone is to judge. Such, at least, has been our opinion of the position of the administration, and many others of our citizens have concurred in it.

But the Cuban authorities have raised a question supposed to be similar to that which is in issue here, and the necessity of taking position upon that question has so pressed upon the Washington cabinet that its opinions and policy must now be declared to the contry. In this new juncture, the Washington *Republic*, Mr. Fillmore's organ, comes out flatly in favour of our law, and pleads it as a precedent in justification of the Spanish authorities in their exclusion of the Crescent City from the port of Havana. The following is the strong, emphatic language of the *Republic* upon this question:

"What publicist—what man of common sense—denies to a country the right of enacting and enforcing such police regulations as its rulers may deem necessary to its peace or safety? France, in seasons of domestic tronble, decrees that certain suspected individuals and classes shall not cross her boundaries, and neither Ledru Rollin nor Louis Blanc questions her right to do so, however little they relish the hardship it occasions. When Ireland was in a state of incipient rebellion, England seized and cast into prison American citizens who were suspected of fomenting mischief; and though Mr. Bancroft remonstrated against the harshness of the proceeding, neither he nor Mr. Buchanan, the then Secretary of State, disputed the right on which it rested. At this moment South Carolina asserts her right to hold in duress coloured subjects of Britain entering Charleston harbour in British vessels; not because they have committed felony, but because their colour brings them within the range of police provisions, which the local authorities hold to be essential to the good order of the city. Still more: South Carolina and Louisiana claim and enforce the right of imprisoning—and, under certain contingencies, selling—coloured citizens of Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, sailing as servants on board of merchant ships or steamers, when they trespass against local laws—laws not levelled against theft, or drunkenness, or riot, but simply against the presence, in particular circumstances, of free coloured individuals. Surely, then, the right conceded to England in times of peril, and exerted even now by France and by States of this Union, may without impropriety be claimed by Spain, and be exercised by her in any precautionary measures she may adopt to maintain her colonial possessions intact. It is the right of self-defence, and nothing more. If Cuba, having a disaffected population amongst the Creoles, be menaced by organized bodies in the United States, her government is clearly justified in declaring who shall and who shall not be permitted to land upon her shores; and this country has no ground of offence if one or another of our citizens be excluded by the arrangement thus devised."

Thus it is that a reluctant administration, when forced by outward pressure, at last yields a tardy, unwilling, assent to the validity of our law. This being the second administration which has so decided, we may now rest assured that the able and learned opinion of Judge Berrien, then United States Attorney General, was sound law, and, as such, it will be sustained by the country.

But though we hold the position of the *Republic* to be sound, we by no means assent to the conclusion which it draws from it. Our precedent would justify the Spanish authorities in excluding from their ports any class of our citizens, such as our naturalized Creoles, whose presence there might be regarded as dangerous to the public peace; it might even justify them in excluding an individual, and subjecting him to restraint, if he should persist in entering their ports after notice not to do so. But it cannot uphold them in excluding the vessel which carries him, or in refusing to unsuspected passengers the right to enter, merely because they happen to arrive in a vessel which has a suspected person on board. South Carolina imprisons the coloured persons who enter her ports contrary to law; but she does not subject the vessels in which they come to any restraint whatever. The other passengers and crew are received as in other cases, and only the individual whose presence the law forbids is subjected to that restraint which is supposed to be necessary to her safety. Her course, therefore, is no precedent or justication for that of the Spanish authorities at Cuba. But the position which our cabinet has taken upon that question clearly maintaintains the validity of our law, and leaves the administration without excuse for its silence and indifference under the annoyances to which the authorities of our State have been subjected, in defence of this now acknowledged national right.—*Charleston (S. C.) Standard.*

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, THE TRIBUNE, ABOLITIONISM.—The Northern Seward Abolition Whig party, besides sacrificing the constitutional rights of Southerners to their fanaticism; unsatisfied with proclaiming a *higher law* superior to Congress, receiving our fugitive slaves, and lending official power and senatorial station to conceal and harbour them; using the pulpit and subsidizing the press to the accomplishment of their nefarious schemes; the very literature of the country, in the garb of sanctified simplicity, under the title of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has been made subservient to their disorganizing plans; and they would instil into the minds of our youth their poisonous libels upon the South, through their tracts and light reading. *When will the South awake?—The* (New Orleans) *Statesman.*

Selections.

THE AMERICAN ABOLITIONISTS AND THE LONDON TIMES.

DURING the many years that we have stood alone among our daily contemporaries in the advocacy of the emancipation of the 3,000,000 human beings held in a galling and degrading bondage on the other side of the Atlantic, we have often felt, that the only thing wanting to call forth the dormant Anti-Slavery feeling of England would be the appearance of *The Times* as the friend and apologist of the slaveholders in the Southern States. We cannot as yet say that our wish has been fully realized; but we have seen enough in the columns of our contemporary, within the last few weeks, to warrant a hope that should we live much longer, we shall have the gratification of seeing *The Times* come out a full fledged abettor of American Slavery, and the advocate of the slaveholders. That would, to our minds, be the most favourable symptom which could exhibit itself, of the approaching downfall of the most enormous iniquity on the face of the earth; for our readers must have remarked that by some extraordinary fatality, which jt is beyond our philosophy to explain, any cause which *The Times* strenuously upholds is sure to fail, just as any cause which it vehemently assails is certain to triumph.

The first effort which our contemporary has made of late years to prop up the falling cause of American Slavery was in a long and elaborate review of Uncle Tom's Cabin. We made some remarks on that defence of the American "domestic institution" at the time of its appearance, and the Earl of Carlisle has followed up our articles on the subject in the preface which he has written to Mr. Rutledge's edition of the work in question.

Another article, which is to be regarded as a virtual vindication of the enormities of transatlantic Slavery, appeared in *The Times* of Saturday. It takes the shape, this time, not of a literary review, but of a leading article, and one, moreover, of the "thundering" kind. Of course *The Times* admits that the cause of slave emancipation is "just." Who does not? We venture to say that there is not a "proprietor" of human beings, an "owner" of immortal souls, on the other side of the Atlantic, who will not make a similar admission. These persons one and all protest that they look forward to the time when the coloured population will be liberated from past the day of emancipation will arrive, and like *The Times* they cannot tell. They are silent. They have not a word to say. That day is lost in the indefiniteness of the future. It may be centuries hence. Ask them, moreover, what they are doing to accelerate the grand era of the emancipation of 3,000,000 of their fellow-creatures, and they are speechless. They know that they are doing nothing to prepare the way for that great consummation.

Nor is this the only ground on which these American slaveholders are amenable to censure. It would be bad enough that they should be doing nothing to promote the cause of ultimate slave emancipation, but they are guilty of something very much worse than indifference and inactivity. They are doing all in their power to defeat the efforts of those who are labouring for the liberation of the slaves in the Southern States. To be an Abolitionist is, with these persons, and evidently with *The Times* also, to be guilty of a crime of the deepest die. They denounce, ridicule and calumniate the Abolitionists in America; *The Times*, after its fashion does the same. Look, in verification of this, to its article of Saturday. See how it abuses the Abolitionists. Observe the amount of vituperation with which it seeks to load those who are the only real friends of the slave—the only parties who are adopting the right course, and pursuing it with an uncompromising determination, to precipitate the destruction of the hideous system.

At one of their recent meetings, one of the Abolitionists, it seems, characterized the gathering of the friends of the slave, as a momentous occasion—"momentous as the claims of God." For this expression *The Times* assails not only the party making use of it, but the whole body of Abolitionists. And what, we should like to know, is there, after all, so very outrageous in the phraseology that it should thus shock the very sensitive nerves of our contemporary? Whatever constitutes the claims of right, constitutes the claims of the Great Supreme. Justice and the Deity are, in a sense, convertible terms. The claims of humanity, too, may be, with the strictest propriety, construed to mean the claims of the Deity. Those, therefore, who are labouring for the emancipation of 3,000,000 of our fellow-creatures in the Southern States of America, are only seeking to promote a cause which we emphatically hold to be the cause of God, because it is the cause of righteousness, of religion, and of humanity.

The attempt of *The Times* to mix up the agitation in favour of "Woman's Rights" with that in favour of the liberation of the slaves is as wretched in taste as it is unjustifiable as a matter of fact. The two agitations have no necessary connection together. And any one who would confound them, must do so wilfully, and not in ignorance of the facts of the case. Many of the leading agitators in favour of "Woman's Rights" have never taken any part in the movement for the annihilation of the slave power while, on the other hand, many of the most distinguished Abolitionists have never, in any way, given the slightest countenance to the crusade in favour of the alleged rights of women. No one knows this better than *The Times*; but it suits its cue just now to endeavour to load the Abolitionists with ridicule, and therefore, true to the instincts of its nature, it does not scruple to resort to the most unjustifiable means, with a view to the accomplishment of its object.

But the *Times* will signally fail in its endeavours to divert the Abolitionists, either in this country or in America, from their purpose. No less signal will be the failure of any attempt to impair the moral power which the Abolitionists on the other side of the Atlantic have acquired. They are a body of men, speaking of them in their collective capacity, of great singleness of purpose, of indomitable courage, of most generous impulses, of indefatigable exertions, and of surpassing self-denial. They did not embark in the holy and heaven-born enterprise to which they are devoting their time, their talents, their pecuniary resources, their all, without well counting the cost. They have already shown that there is no sacrifice too great for them to make in the hallowed cause of the slave, and they will proceed unfalteringly and without fear, in the course on which they have entered. They have all registered a vow in heaven, that they will never desist from their assaults on the strongholds of the slave power, until they see the iniquitous and hideous edifice converted into a heap of ruins. And as the *Times* will not deter them from that course, any more than the *New York Herald*, and other kindred pro-slavery papers have done so, their moral power will not experience the slightest diminution from the obloquy and calumnies of the *Times*. They have already experienced in that way all that the profligate pro-slavery press of America could do, and therefore the misrepresentations and mendacities of the *Times* will fall upon them quite as harmless as did the shafts of aged PRIAM of old.—*The (London) Morning Advertiser.*

LETTER FROM MRS. STOWE UPON "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

IT has been happily observed by Sir Bulwer Lytton, in a preface to a new edition of "Devereux," that it is not only the privilege of an artist, but it is also sometimes his duty to the principles of art to place the spectators in that point of view where the light best falls upon the canvass. "Do not place yourself there," says the painter; "to judge of my composition you must stand where I place you." It is precisely in this sense that Mrs. Stowe has criticised her own celebrated work, in the preface to the edition which she "has authorised" M. Tauchnitz, of Leipsic, to print for general circulation on the continent of Europe, among such as read English as a foreign language. M. Tauchnitz has one of the largest establishments for classical literature in the world. Though he might have published the work without the consent of the author, he declined doing it. Through all his book-selling career, he has made it a rule *never to publish a work without the consent of its author, and without offering to the author a suitable pecuniary remuneration*, which he has volunteered to do in this case.

The following is the preface to which we have referred:

"In authorising the circulation of this book on the Continent of Europe, the author has only the apology that the love of humanity is greater than the love of country.

"That great mystery which all Christian nations hold in common—the UNION OF GOD WITH MAN, through the humanity of Jesus Christ, invests human existence with an awful sacredness, and in the eye of the true believer in Christ, he who tramples on the rights of his meanest fellow-man is not only inhuman, but sacrilegious; and the worst form of this sacrilege is the institution of *Slavery*.

"It has been said that the representations of this book are exaggerations. Would that this were true—would this book were indeed a fiction, and not a close wrought mosaic of fact. But that it is *not* a fiction, the proofs lie bleeding in thousands of hearts—they have been attested by responding voices from almost every slave State, and from slave owners themselves, with express reference to the representations of this book. If more is wanting, we can point the whole civilized world to the written published SLAVE CODE OF THE SOUTHERN STATES—where may be seen a calm, clear, legal crystallisation and arrangement of every enormity and every injustice which despotic power can inflict on the soul and body of a fellow-man. Let any man read the *laws*, and he will never doubt the *results*.

"Since so it is, thanks be to God that this mighty cry—this wail of an unutterable anguish—has at last been heard!

"It has been said that the slave population of America is a degraded race, utterly unprepared for and incapable of freedom, and that such characters as are described in this book are not to be found among them. Whatever may be true of the pure African race, it is a fact that the majority of the slave population of America are a mixed race, in whose veins is circulating the blood of their oppressors, and characters such as George Harris and Eliza are not unfrequently found among them. Lest the character of Uncle Tom be considered merely a creation, with no type in reality, the author places beside of it the following description of a favourite slave, from the published will of Judge Upshur, late Secretary of State, under the administration of President Tyler:

David Rice, and direct my executors to set him free, and to pay him one hundred dollars. I recommend him in the strongest manner to the respect, esteem, and confidence of any community in which he may happen to live. He has been my slave for twenty-four years, during all which time he has been trusted to every extent and in every respect. My confidence in him has been unbounded; his relations to myself and family have always been such as to afford him daily opportunities to deceive and injure us, and yet he has never been detected in any serious fault, nor even in an unintentional breach of the decorum of his station. His intelligence is of a high order—his sense of right and propriety correct, and even refined. I feel that he is justly entitled to carry this certificate from me in the new relations which he must now form; it is due to his long and most faithful services, and to the sincere and steady friendship which I bear him in the uninterrupted and confidential intercourse of twenty-four years, I have never given or had occasion to give him one unpleasant word. I know no man who has fewer faults or more excellencies than he.'

"Such a character, of course, is not common, either in fiction or fact; but so much of degradation, obloquy, and of enforced vice, has been heaped upon the head of the unhappy African, that he is in justice entitled to the very fairest representation which may consist with probability and fact.

"It is not in utter despair, but in solemn hope and assurance, that the friends of freedom may regard the struggle that now convulses America. It is the outcry of the demon of Slavery, which has heard of the voice of a coming Jesus, and is rending the noble form from which at last He will bid it depart.

"It cannot be that so monstrous a solecism can long exist in the bosom of a nation which in all other respects is the best exponent of the principles of universal brotherhood. In America, the Frenchman, the German, the Italian, the Hungarian, the Swede and the Celt, all mingle on terms of fraternity and equal right. All nations there display their characteristic excellence, and are admitted by her liberal laws to equal privileges—everything there is tending to liberalize, humanize and elevate, and for that very reason it is, that the contest with Slavery there grows every year more terrible. The stream of human progress, widening, deepening, strengthening, from the confluent forces of all nations, meets this barrier, behind which is concentrated the ignorance, oppression, and cruelty of the dark ages—it roars and foams, now at its base, but every year it has been steadily rising, till at last, with a rush like Niagara, it will sweep the barrier away.

"In its commencement Slavery overspread every estate in the Union. The progress of Society has already emancipated a majority of the States from its yoke. In Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and Maryland, at different times, strong movements have been made for emancipation, movements enforced by a comparison of the progressive march of the free States, with the poverty and sterility induced by a system which in a few years exhausts the resources of the soil without the power of renewal. The time cannot be distant when these States must emancipate for self-preservation; and if no new slave-territory be added, the increase of slave-population will enforce measures of emancipation in the remainder.

"Here, then, is the point of the battle. Unless new slave-territory is gained, Slavery dies—if it is gained it lives. Around this point political parties fight and manœuvre, and every year the battle waxes hotter.

"The internal struggles of no other nation in the world can be so interesting to Europeans as those of America; for America is fast filling up from Europe

not only a victory, but an unprecedented triumph. Twenty-seven of the States which now compose the great confederation, represented by 296 votes in the Electoral College, declared for the Democratic candidate; while General Scott obtained only 42 votes from the States of Massachusetts, Vermont, Tennessee and Kentucky. We believe that on no former occasion has the election been carried by so overwhelming a majority; and the popular movement, which places Gen. Pierce in the highest office of the Union, has not only raised the party with which he is connected to the highest pitch of strength and power, but seems for the time to have annihilated its antagonists. "Tell him," said Daniel Webster, but a few hours before he expired, "tell him, as my dying message, that from the 2d Nov. the Whig party, as a national party, will have ceased to exist. It will live only in history."

That prediction seems to be already verified, and the political combination of which Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster were the illustrious leaders and ornaments has scarcely survived their termination of their lives. They had followed the footsteps of the Federalists, who laid the solid foundations of the Union and gave it a place among nations, and the American Whigs of our day are all that remained of the Federalism of the last century. The rising stream has overleapt the banks within which they attempted to confine it. The Democratic principles of Jefferson and Jackson have grown with the growth of the western States. The Slavery questions have still further divided and weakened the Northern and Southern Whigs. The election of 1852 has given the severest defeat to the Whig party which it has yet sustained; and unless its elements undergo some fresh transformation, it may be said to have disappeared from the scene.

Although little is personally known of General Pierce, we have never entertained a doubt from the time of his nomination that he was the candidate best fitted to fill the office of President of the United States; and there are several reasons which render the triumph of his party on this occasion a cause of legitimate satisfaction to this country. Of all the political questions on which the election turned, that of Free Trade was by far the most prominent and important. The American Whigs had built their stronghold in the old fortress of Protection to native industry, and one of the chief causes of their discomfiture was that their position became every day more incompatible with the growing industry of the American people and with the commercial policy of other free nations.

The triumph of General Pierce is essentially a triumph of Free Trade. It puts an end forever to the attempt to raise the import duties of the American tariff of 1846, and it leads us to hope that a new and more enlightened spirit will prevail in the new Cabinet with reference to its commercial relations with ourselves and with the colonies of the British empire. The motives that urge the people of the United States to adopt an unrestricted policy in trade, because it is obviously conducive to the interests of their vast territory and of their eager industry, are not less favourable to the maintenance of peace, and especially of peace with this country; for no gains of rapine or of war can for a moment be weighed in value or in amount against the results of the steady and pacific progress of a free people.

But although these principles, which are in perfect accordance with our own, lead us to hope that the term of General Pierce's Administration may strengthen the relations of amity and good-will between the United States and this country, we cannot participate in the enthusiastic confidence of the party which has just raised him to power, for we can not overlook some of the darker elements in its composition, or some of the wilder influences to which this Government will be exposed. The most powerful of all the forces which are combined in this electoral achievement is that of the slave interest. The slave States have not stood in so commanding a position in the Union since the Presidency of Jefferson as they do at this hour, for, under the plausible pretext of maintaining the indissoluble union of the Confederation, they have succeeded in making the whole nation, including the freest States, submit in a manner to their influence and adopt their candidate.

Hence the rout of the Free Soilers, the Abolitionists, and the party opposed to the extension of Slavery, is even more complete than that of their allies, the old Whigs. The new Government will stand, then, dangerously committed on this ground to the slaveholding States, opposed as they are to humanity, to good policy and to law. Further, General Pierce the highest degree their spirit, their ambition, and their inordinate desire to increase the influence of the United States, not only at home but abroad. We read in one of the leading organs of his supporters:

"The Democratic party have now a splendid career opened before them, and if they fail to appropriate it to the proper advancement of all the great interests of the country, domestic and foreign, they will be held to their responsibility in due season. But we shall look to General Pierce's Administration for a domestic policy and a foreign policy which shall not only promote the internal glory and prosperity of the Union, *but the extension of its power and influence among the nations of the earth.*"

Such expectations are naturally excited by an elective Government, fresh from the platform to which it has been raised by a proud and excited people, to whose vanity and ambition every stimulant has been unscrupulously applied for several months; but they are more easily excited than satisfied. The power and influence of the United States among the nations of the earth depend not on their foreign policy, but on their internal freedom and prosperity; and if there be one thing more than another which all their greatest statesmen have sought to avoid, it is interference in foreign affairs. Of late, however, the popular tide flows strongly in that direction; the American people have become singularly excitable on these topics; and before the next four years have expired General Pierce may expect to have to deal with some foreign questions of great difficulty.

Then it is that the Government, of which he will be the head, will find reason to dread the overwhelming popular power which has carried this election, and to regret that the balance of the State is not more evenly trimmed by the presence and control of a strong and able Opposition. In all free and representative States the power of the Opposition is alternately a most useful check or spur to the Government; but that check is especially needed in the United States, where no other control exists at all, and where the less moderate of the two parties will soon be in office. It is impossible to reflect without anxiety that the Union has recently lost all the great men who stood forward on many a perilous occasion to brave popular excitement and to carry measures of conciliation and compromise on disputed questions, both at home and abroad; and now, in addition to the loss of those eminent persons, even the party to which they belonged is broken up.

There can be no greater danger for an American Government than to find itself strong to excess in the confidence of its supporters, and driven along by their desires without the regulating influence of a competent opposition; for such a party is not easily taught the moderation which the responsibility of office commonly imposes even on the most headstrong and impetuous of popular leaders. That will be, to some extent, General Pierce's position; and we await with interest the language in which he will first address himself to his adherents and to their country at large, for as present nothing of note has proceeded from him.

It is a singular consequence of the institutions of the United States that although this election has virtually annihilated the principles and the party of the present Administration in the first week of November, yet Mr. Fillmore and his Cabinet will continue to conduct public affairs till the 4th March, and that in the interval the President will as usual address Congress, and take all the steps he may think fit, in obedience to a system of policy which the nation has repudiated and condemned. In truth, such a condition of things must strike the executive power with temporary paralysis, and its only care should be to expire with decorum. Three months are given it to wind up its affairs, and, perhaps, the same period of three months may serve to allay the heats of the late election, and to give a suitable interval of reflection to the inevitable inheritor of the power Mr. Fillmore still exercises; but he has already lost the support of the country, since his successor is chosen for the opinions and intentions which are most opposite to those of the existing Government.—*London Times, Nov* 20.

☞THE news from the United States is, that Franklin Pierce is elected President. The event has been considered certain for some time past; yet is the question still heard on both sides the Atlantic, "Who is Franklin Pierce?" It is a continuation of the joke which told so well at the time—of the same question being asked about Mr. Polk, on the same occasion. On the day of inauguration, when the noble Pennsylvania Avenue at Washington—the vast opening leading to the capitol—was closely packed with spectators from end to end, and the President's carriage, with its train of followers, was slowly making its way, some wag in the crowd shouted, in an inquisitive voice, "*Who* is James Polk?" Amid roars of laughter, in which the President joined, the question was repeated, till it echoed within the walls of Congress.

There is no harm in this. No disrespect was probably meant; and if it was, certainly no reproach would adhere. There is an English newspaper extant still (as is perhaps the Colonial one from which it made extracts)—an English newspaper, wherein may be seen the inquiry, "Who is Geordy Washington?" And the paper goes on to inform its readers that this Geordy Washington, who can't help meddling with matters that he does not understand, and who will soon be forcibly remanded to obscurity in Virginia, if we can help it, is a person of no better descent than ourselves. Moreover, the reader is desired to judge of him by the company he keeps, one of his intimes being a dirty printer's man, named Ben. Franklin. After this no Polk or Pierce need take office under the question as to who they are.

It is not as a personal matter that the inquiry need be regarded at all—by them or by us. If it were, it would be enough to say that Mr. Pierce, or General Pierce, is a New Hampshire man; a lawyer by profession, but yet a general, on account of his services in the Mexican war. He was nominated by the Democratic party at the Baltimore Convention; and he was put over the heads of Cass, Buchanan, Marcy, and other well-known, political men, on the understood ground that they had so committed themselves in the South, on behalf of Slavery, as to have no chance in the North. Herein it was assumed that General Pierce was not pledged on the subject of Slavery.

He was not so pledged as that domestic parties and foreign journals could quote any verbal self-committal against him, one way or another; but his virtual committal was as complete as any that could be brought in the other cases. His title of general was won in a war which had for its object the extension of Slavery, and which planted the institution anew on a soil from which the Mexicans had uprooted it. And, as soon as his prospects seemed to be sufficiently fair, Mr. Pierce declared himself, in a cautious but unmistakable manner, by his funeral oration over the body of Henry Clay. Another light is cast upon this gentleman by the resolution of the party who proposed him—to uphold the Compromise Acts of 1850, expressly including the Fugitive Slave Law.

But then, the American Whig party is equally pledged to the maintenance of the Fugitive Slave Law. Daniel Webster helped Henry Clay to make it; and President Fillmore eagerly urged on the work, and signed the bill. All the three missed their aim—the Presidential chair. We have before spoken sufficiently of the reasons why Henry Clay missed it. Daniel Webster had not one single vote from the slaveholders, after the awful sacrifices he had made to win them—giving up the assertors of liberty in the North, and breaking through almost as many laws as if he had been a French Emperor. He was too profoundly distrusted by all parties to succeed with any. And Fillmore had done *too* odious a thing, too openly, to be safely nominated for the rule over the whole nation.

The Free Soil party (a great fact in itself) is not strong enough to carry the Presidential Chair. That party, and the "little Liberty Party," are the results of the Abolition movement in the United States. They are very far from being the best results; for the highest order of men among the Abolitionists keep their action pure from party spirit, and free from party perturbations. But if these two parties are not likely to carry the Abolition of Slavery, they are significant signs of the times; and they are eminently important, in an unconscious way, as showing how the whole political action of their country hinges upon the Slavery question.

The only Whig candidate who had any chance—General Scott—enjoyed that chance, over the Websters, and Clays, and Fillmores, by his being (while favourable to Slavery) mysterious and uncommitted upon it. The Democratic candidate, Pierce, succeeded over the Casses, Buchanans and Marcys, because, while favourable to Slavery, he was fetched out of obscurity, and then held his tongue till it was polite to show his leanings. The Free Soil party could not produce a successful candidate, because the very principle of the party is that, though Slavery is bound up with the Constitution, it needs not to be, ought not to be, and shall not be extended to new territory, nor permitted to make fresh inroads on the old. The Fugitive Slave Bill is, of course, rejected by this party, as unconstitutional, and in every way intolerable. As for the Liberty Party, it declares that Slavery is unconstitutional altogether—illegal from the outset—as irreconcileable with the original Constitution of the United States as with the English, or any other.

Such are the parties of the United States. That one consequence of their origin and operation which concerns us here is a very curious one; that, while this question of Slavery remains unsettled, their great country cannot be ruled by an illustrious man. Their President must hold a certain opinion in order to secure his election; but that opinion must be a secret from the world—or be assumed to be so—till he is secure in his seat. An Abolitionist could have no chance with the South. A virulent slaveholder could not be openly welcomed by the North. But a pro-slavery man he must be, only he must be tacitly so, while a candidate. The nation cannot now, as of old, go as one man, and beseech their greatest man, their adored Washington, to rule them. They cannot, as in a later time, array themselves under differing principles, and call upon the leading advocates of those principles to be their chiefs, and head their forces in their electoral battle. They cannot even choose any eminent man whose views are avowed, they must take men who have avowed nothing, within the national hearing.

It is best to explain the fact and the reason of this remarkable case with the utmost possible openness. It is best; because the foes of free government attribute the misfortune to the wrong cause. The Americans, after fighting the noblest battle that heroes could fight for their independence, have established the most successful Republic that the world ever saw. But the foes of Republicanism point across the ocean and say, "See what their public men are! See how the most honest recoil in disgust, and shrink back into private life! See how bitter is the experience of their ablest men—that high ability, if known, is a sure disqualification for the highest offices. See how alone high office is to be gained—by holding a set of opinions which cannot be avowed, by entertaining a moral and political barbarism, which yet must be covered up with hypocrisy." If any of this is true—and we cannot say it is not—we require that it should be laid to the proper account; not to advanced political opinion and practice, but to an antiquated barbarism—(originally deposited by us)—in the midst of the political system which we heartily honour and admire.

If we are right a few more Presidential terms will prepare for the vindication of the republican principle. The Slavery question will work out its own issues, and leave the Americans once more free to choose their greatest men to rule them. A day will come when the Americans will carry their suffrages once more, if not to a Washington, to a thoroughly republican Jefferson, an upright Adams, or a mild and sagacious Madison. President Pierce may, for aught anybody knows, reveal the attributes of all these, and of Washington to boot. But, if he does, the one thing we do know is, that he will hold office but for one term.—*London Daily News, Nov.* 19.

THE RAPPERS DELUSIONS.—The editor of the Cincinnati *Advertiser*, who recently visited the State Lunatic Asylum at Columbus, says there are in that institution *twenty* persons whose insanity is clearly traceable to spirit rappings; and it is stated that there are in the Utica (N. Y.) Lunatic Asylum *nine* victims of the same delusion. The Cleveland *Herald* says: "In many minds, it seems to finish the work commenced by second Adventism—the fruits being neglect of business, neglect of families, running after visionaries and pretended seers, scouting of Christianity and its institutions, spiritual wifeism, insanity, and, in some cases, suicide."

A NEW HUNGARIAN COLONY IN IOWA.—Mr. Perczel, who was deputised by a large number of Hungarians, in Jersey, England and Paris, France, to act for them, made a purchase last month of two townships, situated near Davenport, in Iowa, for a Hungarian colony, and in the spring the great body of the purchasers design emigrating to this country and settling upon their purchase. Among the number are many persons who have distinguished themselves in the legislatures of their country, and in the recent revolutions. They are Gen. Moritz, Perczel, Field Marshal and Minister of War; Count Ladislaus Lisaky; Mr. Foldvary, a wealthy capitalist, and Minister of Justice in the Republic, and others. It is designed to furnish each person in indigent circumstances with forty acres of land, at the Government price, on credit.

WEBSTER'S CAMPAIGN SPEECH.—We (*Post*) are happy to be able to lay before our readers, in advance of all the other papers, a full report of the only speech made by Mr. Webster during the late Presidential campaign, and though brief, we do not hesitate to say that it is one of the best he ever made. It was made immediately upon receiving intelligence of the nomination of General Scott for President, and William A. Graham, of the "tar, pitch and turpentine State," for Vice President. The great orator, when he read the despatch, remarked, with his habitual coolness "Tar and feathers." He then retired.

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN IN FRANCE.—An American gentleman, just arrived from Paris (says the *N. Y. Times*), writes concerning Uncle Tom's Cabin as follows:

When I left Paris, five translations of Uncle Tom's Cabin were in progress: one by Alfred Michiels, the well known historian of Flemish Art; one by the accomplished daughter of the author, Emile Sotvestre; one by M. Lergy, a contributor to the progressist Reviews; and two others, by persons whose names I have forgotten. One edition is to be a cheap one, on the plan of the "four cent novels," embellished with wood cuts. The work is likely to create as great a sensation as elsewhere. Several of the reviewers have already noticed it at length—the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, the leading one in France, devotes thirty pages to it, and the *Journal des Debats* several columns.

RUNAWAY SLAVES.—On the 11th ult., Mr. Charles Marshall, of Fleming, was informed by a slave of the county, that a white man and a mulatto had made overtures to him to run off from his master. The mulatto man was the husband of one of Mr. Marshall's slaves. From this it was inferred that the design was formed to run off the wife and children of the mulatto, a free man named Campbell, who resided at Covington. After night, Mr. Marshall collected a party of neighbours and proceeded to the quarter where Campbell's wife lived, about half a mile from his residence. They found Campbell there, and caught the white man, about fifty yards from the house, making signals. He gave his name as Fairfield. He was armed with a double-barrel shot-gun and a six-barrel revolver when taken. He acknowledged that he came from Covington with Campbell merely as a companion of the latter, on a hunting expedition, not knowing that Campbell was not a white man. Campbell acknowledged that his object was to run off his children, but denied that he intended to take away his wife, as he did not want her; and he asserted that not only was Fairfield a confederate in the business, but that Fairfield persuaded him to undertake it. Campbell has escaped, but Fairfield has been committed to jail in Flemingsburg. He is a man apparently 35 or 40 years old—says he is a painter and wood-chopper, and assumes to be one of the "first families in Virginia."—*Maysville (Ky.) Eagle.*

National Anti-Slavery Standard

☞ *All communications for the paper, and letters relating to pecuniary concerns, should be addressed to* SYDNEY HOWARD GAY, *ofice-No...*

☞ *Donations to the Treasury of the* AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY *may be forwarded to* EDMUND JACKSON, *Treasurer, of Boston, or to* SYDNEY HOWARD GAY, *New-York.*

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1852

Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Fair.

THE Fair will be held in the Assembly Buildings, corner of Tenth and Chesnut streets, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of December. It will be opened to visiters on Tuesday the 14th, at six o'clock, P. M. The public are invited to attend, and are assured that, in the collection offered for sale, they will find a great and beautiful variety of useful and ornamental articles, fully equivalent to the prices asked for them.

Books, pictures, toys, stationery; muslin, worsted and silk fabrics; and an unusual supply of choice articles from Paris, will be among the collection.

Great efforts have been made to render this Fair highly attractive; and the importance of the enterprise to which the profits are devoted, commend it to the attention of the public.

BRITISH SEAMEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—We published, last week, the garbled report made by Telegraph of the allusion in the Message of the Governor of South Carolina to the case of the coloured British seaman who had been imprisoned in Charleston. From the Message itself, which has since been received, we learn that the case of Pereira, as well as that of Roberts, was referred to by the Governor, and that both were discussed at some length. The former, it seems, is considered as abandoned by the British consul, he having paid the man's passage to New York, without taking any further steps in relation to his detention by the authorities of Charleston. Why this course was pursued does not appear, but it may be the fact that Pereira was not a British subject by birth induced the Consul to let his case go, and await a better opportunity to test the question at issue. At all events, it seems that he is not disposed to submission in the matter. The case of Roberts he has taken measures to bring before the U. S. Court on a writ for assault and false imprisonment.

The Governor of South Carolina, it will be seen by the extract which we make below from his Message, has brought forward a quite—to us, at least—new plea in defence of the right of a State to imprison (coloured) foreigners. He falls back upon that clause of the Constitution which prohibits the Foreign Slave Trade. The plea is a descent from the lofty ground of States' Rights whence South Carolina has hitherto maintained her right to imprison anybody whose presence she considered as dangerous to her institutions; but it is, at the same time, a happy contrivance to escape from the dilemma in which she was likely to be involved between Great Britain on the one hand, and the Federal Government on the other. The U. S. Court, we fear, will be but too happy to avail itself of the hint of the Governor, and decide that the imprisonment of foreign coloured men is constitutional, though such a decision should devolve upon the Federal authorities the duty of arresting all coloured foreigners who may arrive at any American port, whether it be New York or New Orleans, Boston or Charleston. Great Britain will be, at least, astonished, if she should not be indignant, at an authoritative decision that her London and Liverpool ship-masters are, by an American legal fiction, slave-traders and pirates.

We copy here the passage referred to in the Message of the South Carolina Governor:

I feel it my duty to call your attention to certain proceedings which have grown out of the enforcement of that law of our State, which requires the Sheriff of Charleston to go on board of such vessels as may be brought to their wharves, and to require the Captains of vessels to confine their coloured seamen to their vessels, and to prevent their landing under penalties, for while I have the highest regard for the right to pass whatever laws on this subject it may deem necessary for its safety, yet the spirit of the age requires that while they should be so formed as to be adequate to our protection, they should be framed in as mild a spirit as possible to other nations, with whom we have friendly relations.

But since an attempt has been made to defy our laws, and bring us in conflict with the Federal Government, on a subject upon which we are so justly sensitive, our own self-respect demands that we should not abate one jot or tittle of that law, which was enacted to protect us from the influence of ignorant incendiaries.

BEFORE that happy time when the Union was saved by the Annexation of Texas, an ordinary return upon writs of all sorts, at the South West, was G. T. T.—Gone to Texas. Hence it was that that incipient republic was known as the Valley of Rascals. We do not know that she is not still deserving of that appellation, but the G. T. T. is no longer the uniform return for those who earned for her that character, and who now, for any reason, may be sought after. Mr. Jonathan Lemmon has not gone to Texas, but has returned to Norfolk. His speculation upon the pockets and patriotism of the Union Committee was so successful that he has abandoned the project of emigrating to Texas. Previous to his departure, says the *Journal of Commerce*, from which we get this information, he was paid $5,000 in sight drafts, which will be available on his arrival at Virginia. That paper publishes his receipt for that sum, which we copy. It will be a curious historical document half a century hence:

Received, New York, November 24, 1852, from Messrs. Henrys, Smith & Townsend, five thousand dollars, this amount having been voluntarily contributed by merchants and others of the city of New York, on account of the recent discharge of eight slaves by the Hon. Elijah Paine (one of the Justices of the Superior Court of the city of New York), upon a writ of habeas corpus, issued upon the petition of one Louis Napoleon.

JONATHAN LEMMON.

Witness to signature, B. A. MCDONALD.

We further learn from the *Journal of Commerce* that inasmuch as Mr and Mrs. Lemmon have received the money, they kindly bind themselves to manumit the slaves should the decision of the Supreme Court set aside that of Judge Paine. They may be certain that they cannot, in any event, lose anything by such a promise. We should be quite willing to bind ourselves in a penal sum that the Supreme Court will never restore Mr. Lemmon the possession of his slaves, whatever it may do with his legal claim.

The guarantee which he has given is as follows:

SUPREME COURT.—The People of the State of New York *ex. rel.* of Louis Napoleon *vs.* Jonathan Lemmon.

Know all men by these presents, that we Jonathan Lemmon and Juliet Lemmon, his wife, of Bath County, in the State of Virginia, for a good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof we hereby acknowledge, do covenant and agree that at any time after the final decision and termination of this matter in the last court to which it can be taken, carried, or appealed, in the United States of America, shall be made or pronounced, we shall manumit and discharge from labour or service the eight slaves in question herein, and recently discharged and set at liberty by the Honourable Elijah Paine, upon request for such manumission or discharge in writing, made of us, or the survivor of us, by the Hon. Elijah Paine, Walter R. Jones, Esq., and James Boorman, Esq., all of the city of New York, or of any two of them, or of the survivor thereof.

In witness whereof we have hereto set our hands and seal, this 24th day of November, 185.

JONATHAN LEMMON.
JULIET LEMMON.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of
JOHN ANDREWS, 49 Wall strett.
HENRY D. LAPAUGH, 49 Wall street.

PROFITS IN THE LEMMON TRADE.—The *Tribune* makes the following calculation of the profit realised by Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon in their recent slave-trade, as a guide to those who may be thinking of embarking in this line of business:

The highest Richmond prices of these several slaves would be—say:

Emeline (common hand), aged 28	$750
Lewis (brother to Emeline), aged 18	650
Edward (brother of Emeline), aged 13	400
Lewis and Edward, twins, boys of Nancy, aged 7	400
Ann, daughter of Nancy, aged 2½	100
Amanda, daughter of Emeline, aged 2½	100
Baby, of Nancy, to be born as above	25
Passage from Richmond to N. Y. say	25
Total	$3,200
Cash paid	$5,000
Deduct cost in Richmond and expenses	3,200
Net profit	$1,800

MR. WEBSTER'S REPENTANCE.—The *New England Farmer* makes the following statement, which confirms, says the *Boston Commonwealth*, a rumour which has gained very considerable credence. We hope it is correct, for even a death-bed repentance is held to be better than none:

We learn on reliable authority, that Mr. Webster confessed to a warm political friend, a short time before his death, that the great mistake of his life was the famous 7th of March Speech, in which, it will be remembered, he defended the Fugitive Slave Law, and fully committed himself to the Compromise measures. Before taking his stand on that occasion, he is said to have corresponded with Professor Stuart and other eminent divines, to ascertain how far the religious sentiment of the North would sustain him in the position he was about to assume.

☞ THE WEEKLY *Georgetown* (Ky.) *Herald* consists of a new evidence of the Northern propensity to interfere with Southern peculiarities if we inform it that "The Song of the Bowl," which it recently published as original, was copied, a few weeks before, by the *Maryland* from an English paper:

[For the Standard.]

QUERIES AND CONSOLATIONS TO THE WHIGS UNDER THEIR LATE SEVERE VISITATION.

THE Whig party is thoroughly defeated—many Whigs, in their despair, and Democrats in their exultation, say *annihilated*. Annihilated! with its array of talent and cunning, its hundreds of presses and wealth of money, its immemorial traditions, its recent and frequent victories, its myriad voters, that must be counted over each four years to see if they be not the majority—actually the majority half the time! This cannot be so. Had it indeed been death-struck, there is an inertia of vitality about it that would outlast the century. I am afraid the intelligence is of a piece with the delusive announcement, repeated every now and then by sanguine persons, that the devil is dead—too good to be true. "*Scotched not killed*," the fear is, that this sorely-battered organism will affect the world sometime longer with its sterile negations, and *juste milieu* respectability.

Or do they speak in a figure, and in their grief exaggerate the calamity, who have thus proclaimed the demise of the great Whig party. They, perhaps, do not mean literally, that the great corpse is putrifying along the shore, but that the disorder has taken a fatal turn, and that the question of death is one merely of time.

In this desperate crisis everybody is at liberty to speculate upon the causes and symptoms. The empirics of Anti-Slavery may poke their unlearned noses into the diagnosis as well as the regular faculty. If this lapse and paralysis, which seems to have prostrated the party, be indeed death, then, as ideas are the breath of political organizations, we must arrive at the profound conclusion, that American Whiggery has died for want of breath—*i. e.*, ideas. It is in the predicament of the inveterate Yankee, who whittled at his chair until he whittled himself down. It has lopped off, one after another, all the peculiar articles of its creed. Long ago it cut away, as odious and old-fashioned, its fine, carved back of Federalism, reducing its chair of State to a common stool. It rasped next one of its arms, called National Bank, because it was obsolete, and chipped off the other, called Protection, to bury as a relic in Henry Clay's grave. It next whittled at its tripod of Abolitionism, Pro-Slavery, and Military Enthusiasm, amputating the first of these with the sword of General Scott, at Baltimore, and toppling over upon the other two in November.

It is interesting, not to say melancholy, to see a great party that has had the feelings and sentiments, the opinions and the consciences, of half a nation under its control for a quarter of a century, abandoning itself, very similar to our little affair, and, oddly enough, one of the names then most on the lips of the sinners has been found timorous cry of "*save our pew.*" Why, the Whigs have only been outvoted by a few ignorant men, under the mandlin idea that they were the exclusive *Democracy*. Cobden and Bright got voted down twenty times on the Corn Laws; so did Sharpe and Wilberforce on the abrogation of the Slave Trade; but Free Trade in Bread and Slave Trade abolition were not annihilated thereby. Or is this but a confession, extorted from the frankness of grief, that there was no principle at the bottom of the late political struggle that could dignify or survive it; that it was only the poor charlatan playing positively the last trick in the bag?

Intimations are given out in certain quarters that the Anti-Slavery Party is to be reinforced by the flying cohorts of Whigism. If this is put down for certain fulfilment (as probably it is not), it is not, for the party to be thus strengthened, a matter of unmixed gratulation. Anything like the ingathering of the Whigs to the Abolition camp would bring in with it a perfectly fatal accession of exploded theories, timid and evasive policies, and vicious maxims. The same want of faith in absolute principles, the same hesitation to present and advocate ideas upon their merits, the same subjection to the domination of the worst elements in the party, that has precipitated the fall of the Whigs, would infect the new coalition. The morality of choosing the lesser evil, of sacrificing all to the exigency of present success, would be inculcated as the alternate of political wisdom. The attempt would be about as hopeless to make a pure church out of a community of penitent *roues* as to make an Anti-Slavery party, of any effective moral power, out of the relics of the Whig party.

The noble ideas of Freedom emancipate and convert every mind that receives them. While the holy flame of liberty is kindling to a glow the souls that come within its radiance, fresh fuel, though it may ultimately feed the blaze, for the moment checks and dampens its vigour. Opening within itself an asylum for the disaffected of all parties, the Anti-Slavery cause has had the misfortune to receive and become responsible for cunning hypocrites, who sought its high vantage ground only to wreak some spite upon their personal or political enemies. It has but just rid itself of the Van Burens and their intriguing clan, skulking out of its sacred precincts like bad angels out of heaven. Let the next accession to the cause of Freedom be requested to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, before the heaven-entrusted leadership of a good enterprise is relinquished to its hands. Let the Whigs understand that the alliance of the Abolitionists is the assurance of defeat. Let the issue be once made betwixt the supporters and the opponents of human Slavery in this country, and the names of the latter must be flouted upon the popular ear in terms of odium and rage that the vocabulary of political vulgarity has never yet known. If they are prepared to go into these deep waters, to be baptized with this baptism, in God's name let them come on; but if they are dismayed at such a prospect, let them not put their hands to the plough, but haste to Franklin Pierce, as soon as convenient after the 4th of March, and see upon what terms they can be let in to do scullion's office in the Democratic kitchen.

What controversy have the Whigs with the Democrats unless a purely personal one, interesting a few individuals rather than whole masses? Have they not endorsed all their policy and given sanction to their measures? The Whigs have always claimed to be Democrats; and so they are, only not quite so Democratic as the Democrats. They manage to keep in sight of the *progressives*, following hard behind them. They hang back, they protest against going most pathetically, but when the car begins to move, they tumble in and ride along. They have been sneaking accomplices in Democratic villany, washing their hands when the crime was plotted, but coming in seasonably to share the spoils. They opposed the annexation of Texas, but retained fellowship with those who managed it, and magnanimously contributed the President and necessary requisition of votes to accomplish it. They denounced the Mexican war as unjustifiable, but put in their share of the laurels, and actually carried off the applause of its success. A facetious truckman in Philadelphia named his leader *Xerxes*, and his pole horse *Artaxerxes*, "because," as he explained, "he came *arter* Xerxes." The Whig party may have been the *arta*-Democratic, never the *anti*-Democratic party.

Let the great leaders of the defeated party nourish their anger, for it will keep through the winter. Time is short and art is long. The old chess board of politics may afford them another game, and even New Hampshire sagacity may not save the Democracy from some false move. Above all, let them take wit in their anger and not precipitate themselves headlong into the impervious bogs of fanaticism. From this quarter the warning must be allowed to be magnanimous.

Foreign Correspondence.

FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.

DUBLIN, November 12, 1852.

MY DEAR GAY: Well, it is no lie to say that this is, as poor Hood called it in his famous descriptions, November. It is wild and wintry, wet and sludgy. It is blowing bitterly, and, to use a particularly animated phrase, which I do not recommend to the adoption of any fastidious purest, "raining cats and dogs." In short, in addition to the proverbial and natural gloom, cheerlessness and dreariness of the season, the weather has been especially raw and disagreeable since the earthquake. "The Earthquake?" you ask, opening your eyes like saucers; "what earthquake?" Why, to be sure, the great earthquake at Dublin, on Tuesday morning. I assure you we are no little conceited on the head of it. You know people often take pride in their little misfortunes, or their great ones, as the case may be. Nations, you are aware, are almost always vainest of their worst men. My poor old friend Abby Widdows of Ballitore, now dead about thirty years, invariably looked back to the time of her failure in business as the grandest era of her life, and used to remark, with the utmost pride and satisfaction, "such and such a thing happened so many years before *I* failed." But about the earthquake. Just 73 hours ago (for it is 5 p.m Tuesday morning), your humble servant and Dublin correspondent was "sleeping the sleep of innocence," in that room immortalised by Frederick Douglass as "Mr. Webb's garret"—when, lo! I was roused from my slumber in that lofty elevation, which has witnessed the repose of a much more distinguished man, by what seemed a heavy thump, followed by a violent shaking of the bed, and a jingling of glasses, jugs and basins, and of the window frame. I got up and found that everybody in the house had also been awakened by similar sensations and similar noises—all except too big lumps of boys who are at that age when nothing wakes them, when they sleep as it were the sleep of death, when their devotions to Somnus are most profound; so that, in short,

"An earthquake rolled unheededly away!"

At first, I thought something tremendous had fallen in the adjoining house—then, that an explosion of gunpowder had taken place—then, that we had been honoured by an earthquake; as I ignorantly supposed, for the first time in Ireland. The ladies of the family got up, lit their candles, and watched the remainder of the night for the *next* shock. Being very sleepy, and not given to look for misfortunes that are not likely to come, I turned in again and slept till daylight. On Thursday morning appeared a lively letter in one of our daily papers from the pen of Surgeon Wilde, an eminent oculist and antiquarian, in which he showed that earthquakes have been by no means unknown in Ireland, since we had one in the County of Sligo, or that locality, so late as about the year 600, which gave rise to a lake that still exists, and the tradition respecting which is quite vivid at the present day. Then the "Annals of the Four Masters" mention another somewhere else about 600 years later; and in 1788, there was a volcanic eruption in the County of Antrem which belched forth flames and lava, and destroyed a village after the fashion of the big brethren mentioned in all our school-books—Hecla, Etna and Vesurius. He also noticed an earthquake at Dublin about 1695, of which I had never heard. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1750, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1816, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1832, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1840, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1850, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1851, which I have also never heard of. Then there was a shock felt in Dublin about 1852, which I have also never heard of. 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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

THE brief space which has elapsed since the close of your last session has been marked by no extraordinary political event. The quadrennial election of Chief Magistrate has passed off with less than the usual excitement. However individuals and parties may have been disappointed in the result, it is nevertheless a subject of national congratulation that the choice has been effected by the independant suffrages of a free people, undisturbed by those influences which in other countries have too often affected the purity of popular elections.

Our grateful thanks are due to an All-Merciful Providence, not only for staying the pestilence, which, in different forms, has desolated some of our cities, but for crowning the labours of the husbandman with an abundant harvest, and the nation generally with the blessings of peace and prosperity.

Within a few weeks the public mind has been deeply affected by the death of Daniel Webster, filling, at his decease, the office of Secretary of State. His associates in the Executive Government have sincerely sympathized with his family and the public generally on this mournful occasion.

His commanding talents, his great political and professional eminence, his well-tried patriotism, and his long and faithful services, in the most important public trusts, have caused his death to be lamented throughout the country, and have earned for him a lasting place in our history.

In the course of the last summer, considerable anxiety was caused for a short time by an official intimation from the Government of Great Britain, that orders had been given for the protection of the fisheries upon the coasts of the British provinces in North America against the alleged encroachments of the fishing vessels of the United States and France.

The shortness of this notice, and the season of the year, seemened to make it a matter of urgent importance. It was at first apprehended that an increased naval force had been ordered to the fishing grounds to carry into effect the British interpretation of those provisions in the Convention of 1818, in reference to the true intent, of which the two Governments differ. It was soon discovered that such was not the design of Great Britain, and satisfactory explanations of the real objects of the measure have been given both here and in London.

The unadjusted difference, however, between the two Governments as to the interpretation of the first article of the Convention of 1818, is still a matter of importance. American fishing vessels, within nine or ten years, have been excluded from waters to which they had free access for twenty-five years after the negotiation of the treaty. In 1845 this exclusion was relaxed so far as concerns the Bay of Funday, but the just and liberal intention of the Home Government, in compliance with what we think the true construction of the Convention, to open all the other outer bays to our fishermen, was abandoned, in consequence of the opposition of the colonies.

Notwithstanding this, the United States have, since the Bay of Fundy was re-opened to our fishermen, in 1845, pursued the most liberal course toward the colonial fishing interests. By the revenue laws of 1846, the duties on colonial fish entering our ports were very greatly reduced, and by the warehousing act it is allowed to be entered in bond without payment of duty. In this way colonial fish has acquired the monopoly of the export trade in our market, and is entering to some extent into the home consumption. These facts were among those which increased the sensibility of our fishing interest, at the movement in question.

These circumstances and the incidents above alluded to have led me to think the moment favourable for a reconsideration of the entire subject of the fisheries on the coasts of the British provinces, with a view to place them upon a more liberal footing of reciprocal privilege. A willingness to meet us in some arrangement of this kind is understood to exist on the part of Great Britain, with a desire on her part to include in one comprehensive settlement, as well this subject as the commercial intercourse between the United States and the British provinces.

I have thought that whatever arrangements may be made on these two subjects, it is expedient that they should be embraced in two separate conventions. The illness and death of the late Secretary of State prevented the commencement of the contemplated negotiation. Pains have been taken to collect the information required for the details of such an arrangement. The subject is attended with considerable difficulty. If it is found practicable to come to an agreement mutually acceptable to the two parties, conventions may be concluded in the course of the present winter. The control of Congress over all the provisions of such an arrangement, affecting the revenue, will, of course, be reserved.

The affairs of Cuba formed a prominent topic in my last Annual Message. They remain in an uneasy condition, and a feeling of alarm and irritation on the part of the Cuban authorities appears to exist. This feeling has interfered with the regular commercial intercourse between the United States and the island, and led to some acts of which we have a right to complain. But the Captain-General of Cuba is clothed with no power to treat with foreign governments, nor is he in any degree under the control of the Spanish Minister at Washington.

Any communication which may be held with an agent of a foreign power is informal and matter of courtesy. Anxious to put an end to the existing inconveniences, (which seemed to rest on a misconception), I directed the newly appointed Minister to Mexico, to visit Havana, on his way to Vera Cruz. He was respectfully received by the Captain-General, who conferred with him freely on the recent occurrences, but no permanent arrangement was effected.

In the meantime, the refusal of the Captain-General to allow passengers and mails to be landed in certain cases, for a reason which does not furnish, in the opinion of this Government, even a good presumptive ground for such a prohibition, has been made the subject of a serious remonstrance at Madrid; and I have no doubt that due respect will be paid by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to the representations which our Minister is instructed to make on the subject.

It is but justice to the Captain-General to add, that his conduct towards the steamers employed to carry the mails of the United States to Havana has, with the exceptions above alluded to, been marked with kindness and liberality, and indicates no general purpose of interfering with the commercial correspondence and intercourse between the island and this country.

Early the present year, official notes were received from the Ministers of France and England, inviting the Government of the United States to become a party with Great Britain and France to a tripitate Convention, in virtue of which the three powers should severally and collectively disclaim, now and for the future, all intention to obtain possession of the island of Cuba, and should bind themselves to discountenance all attempts to that effect on the part of any power or individual whatever.

This invitation has been respectfully declined, for reasons which it would occupy too much space in this communication to state in detail, but which led me to think that the proposed measures were of doubtful constitutionality, impolitic, and unavailing. I have, however, in common with several of my predecessors, directed the Ministers of France and England to be assured that the United States entertain no designs against Cuba; but that, on the contrary, I should regard its incorporation into the Union at the present time, as fraught with serious peril.

With this island comparatively destitute of inhabitants, or occupied by a kindred race, I should regard it, if voluntarily ceded by Spain, as a most desirable acquisition. But, under existing circumstances, I should look upon its incorporation into our Union as a very hazardous measure. It would bring into the Confederacy a population of a different national stock, speaking a different language, and not likely to harmonise with the other members. It would probably affect in a prejudicial manner the industrial interests of the South; and it might revive those conflicts of opinion between the different sections of the country, which lately shook the Union to its centre, and which have been so happily compromised.

The rejection by the Mexican Congress of the Convention which has been concluded between that Republic and the United States, for the protection of a transit way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and of the interests of those citizens of the United States who had become proprietors of the rights which Mexico had conferred on one of her own citizens in regard to that transit, has thrown a serious obstacle in the way of the attainment of a very desirable national object.

I am still willing to hope that the differences on the subject which exist, or may hereafter arise, between the Governments, will be amicably adjusted. This subject, however, has already engaged the attention of the Senate of the United States, and requires no further comment in this communication.

The settlement of the question respecting the part of San Juan de Nicaragua, and of the controversy between the Republics of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, in regard to their boundaries, was considered indispensable to the commencement of the ship canal between the two oceans, which was the subject of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain, on the 9th of April, 1850. Accordingly, a proposition for the same purposes, addressed to the two Governments in that quarter, and to the Mesquito Indians, was agreed to in April last by the Secretary of State and the Minister of Her Britannic Majesty.

Besides the wish to aid in reconciling the differences of the two republics, I engaged in the negotiation from a desire to place the great work of a ship canal between the two oceans under one jurisdiction, and to establish the important port of San Juan de Nicaragua under the government of a civilized power. The proposition in question was assented to by Costa Rica and the Mesquito Indians. It has not proved equally acceptable to Nicaragua, but it is to be hoped that the further negotiations on the subject which are in train, will be carried on in that spirit of conciliation and compromise which ought always to prevail on such occasions, and that they will lead to a satisfactory result.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the executive government of Venezuela has acknowledged some claims of citizens of the United States, which have for many years been urged by our charge d'affaires at Caracas. It is hoped that the same sense of justice will actuate the Congress of that Republic in providing the means for their payment.

The recent revolution in Buenos Ayres, and the confederated States having opened the prospect for an improved state of things in that quarter, the Government of Great Britain and France determined to negotiate with the chief of the new Confederacy for the free access of their commerce to the extensive countries watered by the tributaries of the La Plata; and they gave a friendly notice of this purpose to the United States, that we might, if we thought proper, pursue the same course.

In compliance with this invitation, our Minister at Rio Janierio and our charge d'affaires at Buenos Ayres have been fully authorized to conclude treaties with the newly organized Confederation, or the States composing it. The delays which have taken place in the formation of the new government have as yet prevented the execution of these instructions; but there is every reason to hope that these vast countries will be eventually opened to our commerce.

A treaty of commerce has been concluded between the United States and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, which will be laid before the Senate. Should this Convention go into operation, it will open to the commercial enterprise of our citizens a country of great extent and unsurpassed in natural resources, but from which foreign nations have been almost wholly excluded.

The correspondence of the late Secretary of State with the Peruvian charge d'affairs relative to the Lobos Islands was communicated to Congress toward the close of the last session. Since that time, on further investigation of the subject, the doubts which had been entertained of the title of Peru to those Islands have been removed; and I have deemed it just that the temporary wrong which had been unintentionally done her from want of information, should be repaired by an unreserved acknowledgment of her sovereignty.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the course pursued by Peru has been creditable to the liberality of her Government. Before it was known by her that her title would be acknowledged at Washington, her Minister of Foreign Affairs authorized our charge d'affaires to Lima to announce to the American vessels which had gone to the Lobos for guano, that the Peruvian Government was willing to freight them on its own account. The intention has been carried into effect by the Peruvian Minister here, by an arrangement which is believed to be advantageous to the parties in interest.

Our settlements on the shores of the Atlantic have already given a great extension, and in some respects a new direction to our commerce in that ocean. A direct and rapidly-increasing intercourse has sprung up with Eastern Asia. The waters of the Northern Pacific, even into the Arctic Sea, have of late years been frequented by our whalemen. The application of steam to the general purpose of navigation is becoming daily more common, and makes it desirable to obtain fuel and other necessary supplies at convenient points on the route between Asia and the Pacific shores. Our unfortunate countrymen, who, from time to time, suffer shipwreck on the coasts of the eastern seas are entitled to protection. Besides these specific objects, the general prosperity of our States on the Pacific requires that an attempt be made to open the opposite regions of Asia to a mutually beneficial result.

It is obvious that this attempt could be made by no power to so great advantage as by the United States, whose constitutional system excludes every idea of distant colonial dependencies. I have accordingly been led to order an appropriate naval force to Japan, under the command of a discreet and intelligent officer of the highest rank known to our service. He is instructed to endeavour to obtain from the government of that country some relaxation of the inhospitable and anti-social system which it has pursued for about two centuries. He has been directed particularly to remonstrate in the strongest language against the cruel treatment to which our shipwrecked mariners have often been subjected, and to insist that they shall be treated with humanity.

He is instructed, however, at the same time, to give that government the amplest assurances that the objects of the United States are such and such only as I have indicated, and that the expedition is friendly and peaceful. Notwithstanding the jealousy with which the governments of Eastern Asia regard all overtures from foreigners, I am not without hopes of a beneficial result of the expedition. Should it be crowned with success, the advantages will not be confined to the United States, but, as in the case of China, will be equally enjoyed by all the other maritime powers. I have much satisfaction in stating that in all the steps preparatory to this expedition the Government of the United States has been materially aided by the good offices of the King of the Netherlands, the only European power having any commercial relations with Japan.

In passing from this survey of our foreign relations, I invite the attention of Congress to the condition of the Government to which this branch of the public business is entrusted. Our intercourse with foreign powers has of late years greatly increased, both in consequence of our own growth and the introduction of many new States into the family of nations. In this way the Department of State has become overburdened. It has, by the recent establishment of the Department of the Interior, been relieved of a large portion of the domestic business. If the residue of the business of that kind, such as the distribution of Congressional documents, the keeping, publishing and distribution of the laws of the United States, the execution of the copyright law, the subject of reprieves and pardons, and some other subjects relating to interior administration, should be transferred from the Department of State, it would unquestionably be for the benefit of the public service.

I would also suggest that the building appropriated to the State Department is not fire-proof; that there is reason to think there are defects in its construction, and that the archives of the Government in charge of the Department, with the precious collections of the manuscript papers of Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison, and Munroe, are exposed to destruction by fire. A similar remark may be made of the buildings appropriated to the War and Navy Departments.

The condition of the Treasury is exhibited in the Annual Report from that Department.

The cash receipts into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending the 30th June last, exclusive of Trust funds, were forty-nine millions seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand three hundred and eighty-six dollars and eighty-nine cents ($49,728,386 89), and the expenditures for the same period likewise exclusive of trust funds, were forty-six millions seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and twenty cents (46,007,896 20), of which nine millions four hundred and fifty-five thousand eight hundred and fifteen dollars and eighty-three cents ($9,455,815 83) was on account of the principal and interest of the public debt, including the last instalment of the indemnity to Mexico, under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, leaving a balance of $14,632,136 37 in the Treasury on the first day of July last. Since this latter period, further purchases of the principal of the public debt have been made to the extent of two millions four hundred and fifty-six thousand five hundred and forty-seven dollars and forty-nine cents ($2,456,647 49), and the surplus in the Treasury will continue to be applied to that object, whenever the stock can be procured within the limits, as to price, authorized by law.

The value of foreign merchandise imported during the last fiscal year was two hundred and seven millions two hundred and forty thousand one hundred and one dollars ($207,240,101); and the value of domestic productions exported was one hundred and forty-nine millions eight hundred and sixty-one thousand nine hundred and eleven dollars ($149,861,911); besides seventeen millions two hundred and four thousand and twenty-six dollars ($17,204,026) of foreign merchandise exported; making the aggregate of the entire exports, one hundred and sixty-seven millions sixty-five thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven dollars ($167,065,937); exclusive of the above there was exported forty-two millions five hundred and seven thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars ($42,507,285) in specie, and imported from foreign ports five millions two hundred and sixty-two thousand six hundred and forty-three dollars ($5,262,643).

In my first annual message to Congress I called your attention to what seemed to me some defects in the present tariff, and recommended such modifications as in my judgment were best adopted to remedy its evils and promote the prosperity of the country. Nothing has since occurred to change my views on this important question.

Without repeating the arguments contained in my former message, in favour of discriminating, protective duties, I deem it my duty to call your attention to one or two other considerations affecting this subject. The first is the effect of large importations of foreign goods upon our currency. Most of the gold of California, as fast as it is coined, finds its way directly to Europe in payment for goods purchased.

In the second place, as our manufacturing establishments are broken down by competition with foreigners, the capital invested in them is lost, thousands of honest and industrious citizens are thrown out of employment, and the farmer to that extent is deprived of a home market for the sale of his surplus produce. In the third place, the destruction of our manufactures leaves the foreigner without competition in our market, and he consequently raises the price of the articles sent here for sale, as is now seen in the increased cost of iron imported from England. The prosperity and wealth of every nation must depend upon its productive industry. The farmer is stimulated to exertion by finding a ready market for his surplus products, and benefitted by being able to exchange them, without loss of time or expense of transportation, for the manufactures which his comfort or convenience requires.

This is always done to the best advantage where a portion of the community in which he lives is engaged in other pursuits. But most manufactures require an amount of capital and a practical skill which cannot be commanded, unless they be protected for a time from ruinous competition from abroad. Hence the necessity of laying those duties upon imported goods which the Constitution authorizes for revenue, in such a manner as to protect and encourage the labour of our own citizens. Duties, however, should not be fixed at a rate so high as to exclude the foreign article, but should be so graduated as to enable the domestic manufacturer fairly to compete with the foreigner in our own market, and by the competition to reduce the price of the manufactured article to the consumer to the lowest rate at which it can be produced. This policy would place the mechanic by the side of the farmer, create a mutual interchange of their respective commodities, and thus stimulate the industry of the whole country, and render us independent of foreign nations for the supplies required by the habits or necessities of the people.

Another question, wholly independent of protection, presents itself, and that is whether the duties levied should be upon the value of the article at the place of shipment, or, where it is practicable, a specific duty, graduated according to quantity, as ascertained by weight or measure. All our duties are at present *ad valorem*. A certain per centage is levied on the price of the goods at the port of shipment in a foreign country. Most commercial nations have found it indispensable, for the purpose of preventing fraud and perjury, to make duties specific whenever the article is of such uniform value in weight or measure as to justify such a duty Legislation should never encourage dishonesty or crime.

It is impossible that the revenue officers at the ports where the goods are entered and the duties paid should know with certainty what they cost in the foreign country. Yet the law requires that they should levy the duty according to such cost. They are therefore compelled to resort to very unsatisfactory evidence to ascertain what that cost was. They take the invoice of the importer, attested by his oath, as the best evidence of what the nature of the case admits. But every one must see that the invoice may be fabricated, and the oath by which it is supported false, by reason of which the dishonest importer pays a part only of the duties which are paid by the honest one, and thus indirectly receives from the treasury of the United States a reward for his fraud and perjury.

The reports of the Secretary of the Treasury heretofore made on this subject show conclusively that these frauds have been practiced to a great extent. The tendency is to destroy that high moral character for which our merchants have long been distinguished; to defraud the Government of its revenue; to break down the honest importer by a dishonest competition; and, finally, to transfer the business of importation to foreign and irresponsible agents, to the great detriment of our own citizens. I therefore again most earnestly recommend the adoption of specific duties, wherever it is practicable, or a home valuation, to prevent these frauds.

I would also again call your attention to the fact that the present tariff in some cases imposes a higher duty upon the raw material imported than upon the article manufactured from it, the consequence of which is, that the duty operates to the encouragement of the foreigner and the discouragement of our own citizens.

For full and detailed information in regard to the general condition of our Indian affairs, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior and the accompanying documents.

The Senate not having thought proper to ratify the treaties which had been negotiated with the tribes of Indians in California and Oregon, our relations with them have been left in a very unsatisfactory condition.

In other parts of our territory, particular districts of country have been set apart for the exclusive occupation of the Indians, and their right to the lands within those limits has been acknowledged and respected. But in California and Oregon there has been no recognition by the Government of the exclusive right of the Indians to any part of the country. They are therefore mere tenants at sufferance, and liable to be driven from place to place, at the pleasure of the whites.

The treaties which have been rejected, proposed to remedy this evil by allotting to the different tribes districts of country suitable to their habits of life, and sufficient for their support. This provision, more than any other, it is believed, led to their rejection; and, as no substitute for it has been adopted by Congress, it has not been deemed advisable to attempts to enter into new treaties of a permanent character, although no effort has been spared by temporary arrangements to preserve friendly relations with them.

If it be the desire of Congress to remove them from the country altogether, or to assign them particular districts more remote from the settlements of the whites, it will be proper to set apart, by law, the territory which they are to occupy, and to provide the means necessary for removing them to it. Justice alike to our own citizens and to the Indians, requires the prompt action of Congress on this subject.

The amendments proposed by the Senate, to the treaties which were negotiated with the Sioux Indians of Minnesota, have been submitted to the tribes who were parties to them, and have received their assent. A large tract of valuable territory has thus been opened for settlement and cultivation, and all danger of collision with these powerful and warlike bands has been happily removed.

The removal of the remnant of the tribe of Seminole Indians from Florida has long been a cherished object of the Government, and it is one to which my attention has been steadily directed. Admonished by past experience of the difficulty and cost of the attempt to remove them by military force, resort has been had to conciliatory measures. By the invitation of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, several of the principal chiefs recently visited Washington, and whilst here acknowledged in writing the obligation of their tribe to remove with the least possible delay. Late advices from the special agent of the Government represent that they adhere to their promise, and that a council of their people has been called to make their preliminary arrangements. A general immigration may therefore be confidently expected at an early hour.

The report from the General Land Office shows increased activity in its operations. The survey of the northern boundary of Iowa has been completed with unexampled despatch. Within the last year, 9,522,953 acres of public land have been surveyed, and 8,032,463 acres brought into market.

In the fiscal year there were sold.....1,553,071 acres.
Located with bounty land warrants.....3,201,314 "
Located with other certificates.....115,682 "

Making a total of.....4,870,067 "
In addition, there were—
Reported under swamp land grants.....5,219,188 "
For internal improvements, railroads, &c....3,025,810 "

Making in the aggregate of.....13,115,975 "

Being an increase in the amount of lands sold and located under land warrants of 569,220 acres over the previous year.

The whole amount thus sold, located under land warrants, reported under swamp land grants, and selected for internal improvements, exceeds that of the previous year by 3,342, 372 acres; and the sales would, without doubt, have been much larger but for the extensive reservations for railroads in Missouri, Mississippi, and Alabama.

For the quarter ending 30th September, 1852, there were sold.....743,255 acres.
Located with bounty land warrants.....1,387,116 "
Located with other certificates.....15,649 "
Reported under swamp, landgrants.....2,483,233 "

Making an aggregate for the quarter of.....4,131,253.

Much the larger portion of arranging and classifying the returns of the last census has been finished, and it will now devolve upon Congress to make the necessary provision for the publication of the results in such a form as shall be deemed best. The apportionment of representation, on the basis of the new census, has been made by the Secretary of the Interior in conformity with the provisions of law regulating to that subject, and the recent elections have been made in accordance with it.

I commend to your favourable regard the suggestion contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior that provision be made by law for the publication and distribution, periodically, of an analytical digest of all the patents which have been, or may hereafter be, granted for useful inventions and discoveries, with such descriptions and illustrations as may be necessary to present an intelligible view of their nature and operation. The cost of such publication could be easily defrayed out of the patent fund, and I am persuaded that it could be applied to no object more acceptable to inventors and beneficial to the public at large.

An appropriation of $100,000 having been made at the last session for the purchase of a suitable site, and for the erection, furnishing, and fitting up of an Asylum for the Insane of the District of Columbia and of the Army and Navy of the United States, the proper measures have been adopted to carry this beneficent purpose into effect.

By the latest advices from the Mexican Boundary Commission it appears that the survey of the river Gila, from its confluence with the Colorado to its supposed intersection with the Western line of New Mexico, has been completed. The survey of the Rio Grande has also been finished from the point agreed on by the Commissioners as "the point where it strikes the Southern boundary of New Mexico" to a point one hundred and thirty miles below Eagle Pass, which is about two thirds of the distance along the course of the river to its mouth.

The appropriation which was made at the last session of Congress for the continuation of the survey is subject to the following proviso:

Provided, That no part of this appropriation shall be used or expended until it shall be made satisfactorily to appear to the President of the United States, that the southern boundary of New Mexico is not established by the commissioner and surveyor of the United States farther north of the town called "Paso," than the same is laid down in Disturnell's map, which is added to the treaty.

My attention was drawn to this subject by a report from the Department of the Interior, which reviewed all the facts of the case, and submitted for my decision the question whether, under existing circumstances, any part of the appropriation could be lawfully used or expended for the further prosecution of the work. After a careful consideration of the subject, I came to the conclusion that it could not, and so informed the head of that Department. Orders were immediately issued by him to the commissioner and surveyor to make no further requisitions on the Department, as they could not be paid; and to discontinue all operations on the southern line of New Mexico.

But as the Department had no exact information as to the amount of provisions and money which remained unexpended in the hands of the commissioner and surveyor, it was left discretionary with them to continue the survey down the Rio Grande as far as the means at their disposal would enable them, or at once to disband the Commission. A special messenger has since arrived from the officer in charge of the survey on the river, with information that the funds subject to his control were exhausted, and that the officers and others employed in this service were destitute alike of the means of prosecuting the work and of returning to their homes.

The object of the proviso was doubtless to arrest the survey of the southern and western lines of New Mexico, in regard to which different opinions have been expressed; for it is hardly to be supposed that there could be any objection to that part of the line which extends along the channel of the Rio Grande. But the terms of the law are so broad as to forbid the use of any part of the money for the prosecution of the work, or even for the payment, to the officers and agents, of the arrearages of pay which are justly due to them.

I earnestly invite your prompt attention to this subject, and recommend a modification of the terms of the proviso so as to enable the Department to use as much of the appropriation as will be necessary to discharge the existing obligations of the Government and to complete the survey of the Rio Grande to its mouth.

It will also be proper to make further provision by law for the fulfilment of our treaty with Mexico for running and marking the residue of the boundary line between the two countries.

Permit me to invite your particular attention to the interests of the District of Columbia, which are confided by the Constitution to your peculiar care.

Among the measures which seem to me of the greatest importance to its prosperity are the introduction of a copious supply of water into the city of Washington, and the construction of suitable bridges across the Potomac to replace those which were destroyed by high water in the early part of the present year.

At the last session of Congress, an application was made to defray the cost of the surveys necessary for determining the best means of affording an unfailing supply of good and wholesome water. Some progress has been made in the survey, and as soon as is completed, the result will be laid before you.

Further appropriations will also be necessary for grading and paving the streets and avenues, and enclosing and embellishing the public grounds within the city of Washington.

I commend all these objects, together with the charitable institution of the District, to your favourable regard.

Every effort has been made to protect our frontier, and that of the adjoining Mexican States, from the incursions of the Indian tribes. Of about 11,000 men of which the army is composed, nearly 8,000 are employed in the defence of the newly acquired territory (including Texas), and of emigrants proceeding thereto. I am gratified to say that these efforts have been unusually successful. With the exception of some partial outbreaks in California and Oregon, and occasional depredations on a portion of the Rio Grande, owing, it is believed, to the disturbed state of that border region, the inroads of the Indians have been effectually restrained.

Experience has shown, however, that whenever the two races are brought into contact, collisions will inevitably occur. To prevent these collisions the United States have generally set apart portions of their territory for the exclusive occupation of the Indian tribes. A difficulty occurs, however, in the application of this policy to Texas. By the terms of the compact by which that State was admitted into the Union, she retained the ownership of all the vacant lands within her limits. The Government of that State, it is understood, has assigned no portion of her territory to the Indians but as fast as her settlements advance lays it off into counties, and proceeds to survey and sell it. This policy manifestly tends not only to alarm and irritate the Indians, but to compel them to resort to plunder for subsistance.

It also deprives this Government of that influence and control over them without which no durable peace can ever exist between them and the whites. I trust, therefore, that a due regard for her own interests, apart from considerations of humanity and justice, will induce that State to assign a small portion of her vast domain for the provisional occupancy of the small remnants of tribes within her borders, subject, of course, to her ownership and eventual jurisdiction. If she should fail to do this, the fulfilment of our treaty stipulations with Mexico, and our duty to the Indians themselves, will, it is feared, become a subject of serious embarrassment to the Government. It is hoped, however, that a timely and just provision by Texas may avert this evil.

No appropriations for fortifications were made at the two last sessions of Congress. The cause of this omission is, probably, to be found in a growing belief that the system of fortifications adopted in 1816, and heretofore acted on, requires revision.

The subject certainly deserves full and careful investigation; but it should not be delayed longer than can be avoided. In the meantime there are certain works which have been commenced—some of them nearly completed—designed to protect our principal seaports from Boston to New Orleans, and a few other important points. In regard to the necessity for these works, it is believed that little difference of opinion exists among military men. I therefore recommend that the appropriations necessary to prosecute them be made.

I invite your attention to the remarks on this subject, and on others connected with his Department, contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of War.

Measures have been taken to carry into effect the law of the last sessions making provision for the improvement of certain rivers and harbours, and it is believed that the arrangements made for that purpose will combine efficiency with economy. Owing, chiefly to the advanced season when the act was passed, little has been done in regard to many of the works beyond making the necessary preparations.

With respect to a few of the improvements, the sums already appropriated will suffice to complete them, but most of them will require additional appropriations. I trust that these additional appropriations will be made, and that this wise and beneficent policy, so auspiciously resumed, will be continued. Great care should be taken, however, to commence no work which is not of sufficient importance to the commerce of the country to be viewed as national in its character. But works which have been commenced should not be disconfinued until completed, as otherwise the sums expended will, in most cases, be lost.

The Report from the Navy Department will inform you of the prosperous condition of the branch of the public service committed to its charge. It presents to your consideration many topics and suggestions of which I ask your approval. It exhibits an unusual degree of activity in the operations of the Department during the past year. The preparations for the Japan expedition, to which I have already alluded; the arrangements made for the exploration and survey of the China Seas, the Northern Pacific, and Behring's Straits; the incipient measures taken towards a reconnoissance of the continent of Africa eastward of Liberia; the preparation for an early examination of the tributaries of the River La Plata, which a recent decree of the provisional chief of the Argentine Confederation has opened to navigation; all these enterprises, and the means by which they are proposed to be accomplished, have commanded my full approbation, and I have no doubt will be productive of most useful results.

Two officers of the navy were heretofore instructed to explore the whole extent of the Amazon river from the confines of Peru to its mouth. The results of them has placed in the possession of the Government an interesting and valuable account of the character and resources of a country abounding in the materials of commerce, and which, if opened to the industry of the world, will prove an inexhaustible fund of wealth. The report of this exploration will be communicated to you as soon as it is completed.

Among other subjects offered to your notice by the Secretary of the Navy, I select for special commendation, in view of its connection with the interests of the navy, the plan submitted by him for the establishment of a permanent corps of seamen, and the suggestions he has presented for the reorganization of the Naval Academy.

In reference to the first of these, I take occasion to say that I think it will greatly improve the efficiency of the service, and that I regard it as still more entitled to favour for the salutary influence it must exert upon the naval discipline, now greatly disturbed by the increasing spirit of insubordination, resulting from our present system. The plan proposed for the organization of the seamen furnishes a judicious substitute for the law of September 1850 abolishing a corporeal punishment, and satisfactorily sustains the policy of that act, under conditions well adapted to maintain the authority of command and the order and discipline of our ships.

It is believed that any change which proposes permanently to dispense with this mode of punishment, should be preceeded by a system of enlistment which shall supply the navy with seamen of the most meritorious class, whose good deportment and pride of character may preclude all occasion for a resort to penalties of a harsh or degrading nature. The safety of a ship and her crew is often dependant upon immediate obedience of a command, and the authority to enforce it must be equally ready. The arrest of a refractory seamen in such moments, not only deprives the ship of indispensable aid, but imposes a necessity for double service on others whose fidelity to their duties may be relied upon in such an emergency.

The exposure to this increased and ardous labour since the passage of the act of 1850, has already had, to a most observable and injurious extent, the effect of preventing the enlistment of the best seamen in the navy. The plan now suggested is designed to promote a condition of service in which this objection will no longer exist. The details of this plan may be established in great part, if not altogether, by the Executive, under the authority of existing laws, but I have thought it proper, in accordance with the suggestion of the Secretary of the Navy, to submit it to your approval.

The establishment of a corps of apprentices for the navy, or boys to be enlisted until they become of age, and to be employed under such regulations as the Navy Department may devise, as proposed in the report, I cordially approve and commend to your considerations, and I also concur in the suggestion that the system for the early training of seamen may be most usefully engrafted upon the service of our merchant marine.

The other propositions of the report to which I have referred—the reorganization of the Naval Academy—I recommend to your attention as a project worthy of your encouragement and support. The valuable services already rendered by this institution entitles it to the continuance of your fostering care.

Your attention is respectfully called to the report of the Postmaster General for the detailed operation of his Department during the last fiscal year, from which it will be seen that the receipts from postages for that time were less by $1,431,606 than for the preceeding fiscal year, being a decrease of about 23 per cent.

This diminution, is attributable to the reduction in the rates of postage made by the act of March 3, 1851, which reduction took effect at the commencement of the last fiscal year.

Although in its operation during the last year the act referred to has not fulfilled the predictions of its friends by increasing the correspondence of the country in proportion to the reduction of postage, I should nevertheless question the policy of returning to higher rates. Experience warrants the expectation that as the community becomes accustomed to cheap postage, correspondence will increase. It is believed that from this cause, and, from the rapid growth of the country in population and business, the receipts of the Department must ultimately exceed its expenses, and that the country may safely rely upon the continuance of the present cheap rate of postage.

In former messages I have, among other things, respectfully recommended to the consideration of Congress the propriety and necessity of further legislation for the protection and punishment of foreign consuls residing in the United States; to revive with certain modifications the act of 10th March 1838, to restrain unlawful military expeditions against the inhabitants of contemporaneous States or Territories; for the preservation and protection from mutilation or theft of the papers, records, and archives of the nation; for authorizing the surplus revenue to be applied to the payment of the public debt in advance of the time when it will become due; for the establishment of land offices for the sale of the public lands in California and the Territory of Oregon; for the construction of a road from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific ocean; for the establishment of a bureau of agriculture for the promotion of that interest, perhaps the most important in the country; for the prevention of frauds upon the Government in applications for pensions and bounty lands; for the establishment of a uniform fee bill, prescribing a specific compensation for every service required of clerks, district attorneys, and marshals; for authorizing an additional regiment of mounted men, for the defence of our frontiers against the Indians, and for fulfilling our treaty stipulations with Mexico to defend her citizens against the Indians "with equal dilligence and energy as our own;" for determining the relative rank between the naval and civil officers in our public ships and between the officers of the Army and Navy in the various grades of each; for reorganizing the naval establishment by fixing the number of officers in each grade, and providing for a retired list upon reduced pay, of those unfit for active duty; for prescribing and regulating punishments in the navy; for the appointment of a commission to revise the public statutes of the United States, by arranging them in order, supplying deficiencies, correcting incongruities, simplifying their language, and reporting them to Congress for its final action; and for the establishment of a commission to adjudicate and settle private claims against the United States. I am not aware, however, that any of these subjects have been finally acted upon by Congress. Without repeating the reasons for legislation on these subjects which have been assigned in former messages, I respectfully recommend them again to your favourable consideration.

I think it due to the several Executive Departments of this Government to bear testimony to the efficiency and integrity with which they are conducted. With all the careful superintendence which it is possible for the Heads of those Departments to exercise, still the due administration and guardianship of the public money must very much depend on the vigilance, intelligence and fidelity of the subordinate officers and clerks, and especially on those entrusted with the settlement and adjustment of claims and accounts. I am gratified to believe that they have generally performed their duties faithfully and well. They are appointed to guard the approaches to the public Treasury, and they occupy positions that expose them to all the temptations and seductions which the cupidity of peculators and fraudulent claimants can prompt them to employ.

It will be but a wise precaution to protect the Government from that source of mischief and corruption, as far as it can be done; by the enactment of all proper legal penalties. The laws in this respect are supposed to be defective, and I therefore deem it my duty to call your attention to the subject, and to recommend that provision be made by law for the punishment not only of those who shall accept bribes, but also those who shall either promise, give, or offer to give, any of those officers or clerks, a bribe or reward touching or relating to any matter of their official action or duty.

It has been the uniform policy of this Government from its foundation to the present day to abstain from all interference in the domestic affairs of other nations. The consequence has been that while the nations of Europe have been engaged in desolating wars, our country has pursed its peaceful course to unexampled prosperity and happiness. The wars in which we have been compelled to engage, in defence of the rights and honour of the country, have been fortunately of short duration. During the terrific contest of nation against nation, which succeeded the French revolution, we were enabled by the wisdom and firmness of President Washington to maintain our neutrality.

While other nations were drawn into this wide-sweeping whirlpool, we sat quiet and unmoved upon our own shores. While the flower of their numerous armies was wasted by disease or perished by hundreds of thousands upon the battlefield, the youth of this favoured land were permitted to enjoy the blessings of peace beneath the paternal roof. While the States of Europe incurred enormous debts, under the burden of which their subjects still groan, and which must absorb no small part of the product of the honest industry of those countries for generations to come, the United States have once been enabled to exhibit the proud spectacle of a nation free from public debt; and, if permitted to pursue our prosperous way for a few years longer in peace, we may do the same again.

But it is now said by some, that this policy must be changed. Europe is no longer separated from us by a voyage of months, but steam navigation has brought her within a few days' sail of our shores. We see more of her movements, and take deeper interest in her controversies. Although no one proposes that we should join the fraternity of potentates who have for ages lavished the blood and treasure of their subjects in maintaining "the balance of power," yet it is said that we ought to interfere between contending sovereigns and their subjects, for the purpose of overthrowing the monarchies of Europe, and establishing in their place republican institutions. It is alleged that we have heretofore pursued a different course from a sense of our weakness, but that now our conscious strength dictates a change of policy, and that it is consequently our duty to mingle in these contests and aid those who are struggling for liberty.

This is a most seductive but dangerous appeal to the generous sympathies of freemen. Enjoying as we do the blessings of a free government, there is no man who has an American heart that would not rejoice to see these blessings extended to all other nations. We cannot witness the struggle between the oppressed and the oppressor anywhere, without the deepest sympathy for the former, and the most anxious desire for his triumph. Nevertheless, is it prudent or is it wise to involve ourselves in these foreign wars? Is it indeed true that we have heretofore refrained from doing so merely from the degrading motive of a conscious weakness? For the honour of the patriots who have gone before us I cannot admit it.

Men of the Revolution who drew the sword against the oppressions of the mother country, and pledged to Heaven "their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honour" to maintain their freedom, could never have been actuated by so unworthy a motive. They knew no weakness or fear where right or duty pointed the way, and it is a libel upon their fair fame for us, while we enjoy the blessings for which they so nobly fought and bled to insinuate it. The truth is that the course which they pursued was dictated by a stern sense of international justice, by a statesmanlike prudence and a far-seeing wisdom, looking not merely to the present necessities but to the permanent safety and interest of the country. They knew that the world is governed less by sympathy than by reason and force; that it was not possible for this nation to become a "propagandist" of free principles without arraying against it the combined powers of Europe; and that the result was more likely to be the overthrow of republican liberty here than its establishment there.

History has been written in vain for those who can doubt this. France had no sooner established a republican form of government than she manifested a desire to force its blessings on all the world. Her own historian informs us that, hearing of some petty acts of tyranny in a neighbouring principality, "The National Convention declared that she would afford succor and fraternity to all nations who wished to recover their liberty; and she gave it in charge to the executive power to give orders to the generals of the French armies to aid all citizens who might have been or should be oppressed in the cause of liberty." Here was the false step which led to her subsequent misfortunes. She found herself involved in war with all the rest of Europe. In less than ten years her Government was changed from a republic to an empire; and finally, after shedding rivers of blood, foreign powers restored her exiled dynasty, and exhausted Europe

Miscellaneous Department.

HISTORY OF THE MOON HOAX.

[The following account of this celebrated fiction is from a new edition, lately issued in this city.]

The title of this remarkable satire was the following: "Great Astronomical Discoveries lately made by Sir John Herschel, LL. D., F.R. S., etc., at the Cape of Good Hope," and it was announced as being "first published in the New York *Sun*, from the 'Supplement to the Edinburgh Journal of Science.'" In pretending that it was copied from a periodical of this title, the author committed an oversight, which, if it had not also been made by the public, in general, would at once have proved fatal to the credibility of the whole story, and instantly have exposed it as a hoax. "The Edinburgh Journal of Science" had, for several years, ceased to exist; and had been succeeded by the "Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal," in which Mr. Locke read Dr. Dick's article on lunar discoveries, which we have already mentioned and quoted from as the one which first suggested the burlesque. The author, no doubt, *designed* to cite the existing periodical, last named, as the original source of the production, and his naming the previous one, which had become defunct, was purely an accidental blunder. But, strange to say, this perilous error remained undetected and unexposed by the public press, not only of this country, but of England, until the story had run its full career of credibility, wonderment and fascination, on the mere strength of its own ingenuity, and overwhelming resemblance to reality. "The Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal" was then, as it is now, on the table of every library reading-room in the country, and the author was, of course, too shrewd to attribute his invention to any regular issue of that work. He therefore, very naturally referred it to a "supplement," and added, as we believe, the "Journal of Science," instead of the "Philosophical Journal," in hurried mistake. The public mind, however, was too completely captivated and absorbed with the story itself, to test its authenticity by any Journal or supplement from which it purported to be derived, and scarcely any oversight on the part of the author would have checked the voracious credulity with which it was received—so thoroughly had the public mind been prepared to expect discoveries of this kind by the predominant school of religious philosophy.

The publication of the "Great Astronomical Discoveries" was commenced in the *Sun*, in September, 1835, before any considerable number of the series had been written, and as there could be no valid excuse, for intermitting, for a single day, the publication of discoveries of such unprecedented interest, when a full and authentic account of them was admitted to be in the possession of the publishers of the paper, the author was compelled to write the greater number of the successive portions as a daily task, amid the distracting vocations and interruptions of an editorial office. And this fact may be deemed fully adequate to account for whatever inadvertencies in the structure and style of the story deliberate criticism may detect.

Under this hazardous responsibility, but with evident confidence in the ability and promptitude of the author, the eager publishers cut loose their gay and gallant balloon to the public gaze; and no aerial vehicle ever performed a more illustrious or extensive voyage, for it maintained its wondrous flight until it had accomplished the entire circle of the globe, and had filled every civilized nation, in succession, with enthusiastic astonishment and delight. It was in vain that the "knowing" few, in every country, pronounced it a hoax—a mere balloon. The vast majority, even of the intelligent and educated classes, like the astronomer in "Hudibras," after his intense telescopic scrutiny of the lantern flying at the tail of a kite, decided, with an almost devotional confidence, that it was a veritable celestial luminary.

The late Edgar A. Poe, in an extended criticism upon this story and its author, in a series of biographical reviews, entitled the "Literati," remarks that "not one person in ten discredited it, and (strangest point of all!) the doubters were chiefly those who doubted without being able to say why—the ignorant—those uninformed in astronomy—people who *would* not believe, because the thing was so novel, so entirely out of the usual way. A grave professor of mathematics, in a Virginia college" [Poe was at that time editing the *Southern Literary Messenger*, at Richmond, Va.], "told me, seriously, that he had *no doubt* of the truth of the whole affair! The great effect wrought upon the public mind is referable, first, to the *novelty of the idea;* secondly, to the fancy-exciting and reason-repressing character of the alleged discoveries; thirdly, to the consummate tact with which the deception was brought forth; fourthly, to the exquisite *vraisemblance* of the narration. The hoax was circulated to an immense extent—was translated into various languages—was even made the subject of (quizzical) discussion in astronomical societies—drew down upon it the grave denunciation of Dick (whose school was the real object of it, as a satire)—and was, upon the whole, decidedly the greatest *hit*, in the way of sensation—of merely popular sensation—ever made by any similar fiction, either in America or Europe."

By the afternoon of the day on which the introductory portion of it only had appeared, not a copy of the paper could be procured at any price, notwithstanding a very large extra edition had been provided, in anticipation of an unusual demand. This was increased from day to day, until the utmost capacity of the steam cylinder-press failed to afford an adequate supply. The office was besieged by thousands of applicants, from dawn till midnight, during the entire week the publication occupied; and although there was to be heard among the crowd some occasional intimations of skepticism, from persons of the class described by Mr. Poe, in the above extract, yet the almost universal impression and expression of the multitude was that of confident wonder and insatiable credence. Some of the incidents of the street discussions, on this occasion, were extremely remarkable. The editor of this new edition well remembers being present at the door of the *Sun* office, one morning, when a highly respectable-looking, elderly gentleman, in a fine broadcloth Quaker suit, completely dispelled the undecided opinions of the listening crowd around him, by asserting, in the calmest, coolest, and most unquestionable manner, that he was fortunately engaged on commercial business at the East India Docks, in London, when the vast lens, of seven tons weight, and the whole gigantic apparatus of the telescope described in the story, was taken on board an East India ship, for erection at the Cape of Good Hope, and that he himself saw it craned on board. He added that the statement in the introductory part of the narrative, that this shipment was made from St. Catherine's Docks, was, therefore, evidently an error on the part of the Edinburgh writer; and he concluded his corroborative testimony with the complacent remark, that although high expectations existed at that time of the success of this enormous instrument, in the hands of an astronomer and optician like "John Herschel," yet, for his own part, he had never presumed even to hope that it would ever be the means of such marvellously minute discoveries as were now proclaimed.

The then unknown author of the story was among the immediate listeners to this venerable witness' testimony to the truth of his conscious fiction, in company with Dr. David L. Rodgers, the eminent surgeon, and several other friends, who will doubtless recollect the circumstance; and we can now readily interpret the look of mingled astonishment and contempt with which he regarded him. He, however, asked the speaker no questions, but maintained the imperturbable passivity and reserve which his temporary *incognita* required. On another occasion, at the same place, a person of perfectly respectable appearance boldly asserted that he was in possession of another copy of the Edinburgh "Supplement," from which the *Sun* was publishing its daily extracts; and he felt bound to state that, thus far, they had been faithfully made from the original and authentic narrative, without any addition or alteration whatever. Whether this decisive deponent was beguiled into this unblushing falsehood by the impulses of an enthusiastic credulity, or was merely an impudent wag, we cannot undertake to determine; but similar instances of spontaneous mendacity, relative to the authenticity of the "Great Astronomical Discoveries," were by no means uncommon, during the excited controversy and partisanship which prevailed during its first publication; and we have heard of many other instances, not coming within our own immediate knowledge, of the most outrageous and humiliating character. Doubtless, the history of every controversy, not excepting the most religious, historic, literary, and scientific, would abound with them. We know this to have been the case in regard to the Macpherson forgeries of Ossian, the Chatterton forgeries of Rowley, and the Ireland forgeries of Shakspeare; to say nothing of the controversies of the present day concerning the water-gas of Payne, and the respective characters of our rival political candidates. Indeed, comparatively few men, under the obvious influence of excessive controversial excitement, seldom retain enough moral firmness and dignity to maintain a rigid adherence to truth; and religious history, which ought to be the most exempt from such examples, will be found to be the most overgrown and inextricably entangled with them. Indeed, the degree of excitement may generally be assumed as the true measure of the amount of mendacity to which it is liable, and with which it is actually accompanied.

By the last day of the publication of the "Moon Story" in detail, the publishers, with a keen eye to business, had the whole ready in a pamphlet form, and twenty thousand copies were sold almost instantly, in the city of New York alone, notwithstanding almost every journal, daily and weekly, presented the greater part of it to their numerous readers. Then followed large and many editions for country circulation, accompanied with several lithographic prints of unusual dimensions, illustrating the principal points and objects in the new revelations of lunar scenery; and these, like the pamphlet, sold with unexampled rapidity. In the mean time, the author, as editor of the *Sun*, must have suffered severely from the determined inquisitiveness of which he was necessarily the object, and which he is said to have in vain attempted to obviate and repel by the legitimate excuse of arduous vocations. He must inevitably have been embarrassed in the dilemma of either sustaining a literary fiction by personal assurances amounting to a conscious falsehood, or of violating a business contract, by exposing a secret no longer, in honour, at his own disposal. Under this difficult alternative, as he assured us many years since, he forebore to express any opinion upon the subject, saying that, by arrivals from Europe, the question must necessarily be settled in a very short time; and that, meanwhile, it would be prudent to suspend any confident opinion one way or the other. But arrivals from Europe were less frequent seventeen years ago than now, and an answer of this kind served rather to tantalize than to satisfy the impatient curiosity in which his interrogators indulged.

A party of professors, from one of our most eminent colleges, were among the number of inquirers, who, on receiving this sort of answer, asked him pointedly whether he himself had seen *the original copy* from which the daily extracts in the paper were being made; without, however, evincing the slightest suspicion that he was the secret author. On assuring them, unhesitatingly, that he had, they begged to know whether *they* could be favoured with a sight of it, in order to settle some doubts which had risen among them as to its European origin. He promptly replied that the original copy was not then in his possession, but at a printing-office which he indicated across the street, where it was being set up in a pamphlet form, for publication at the close of the week; and referred them to the proprietors of the paper, in the publication office, for the accommodation they desired. After some further conversation, in which the author appeared as ignorant of the whole subject as it was reasonable for any man to be, the learned inquisitors, who had thus put him to the rack, released him from torture by bidding him good morning, and seeking an interview with the proprietors. But these "wide-awake" men of business, "smelling a rat," or, in other phrase, suspecting "spies in the camp," while they politely referred them to Mr. F——'s job printing-office, on the opposite side of Spruce street, took good care to forestall their inquisitorial visit by a private messenger occupying their attention, in the mean time, with inquiries concerning their conversation with the editor; so that by the time they called at Mr. F——'s, to see the "original," that great curiosity was nowhere to be found; the compositors were not at work on it, and the foreman was *non est inventus*. And thus the exploring expedition of these sages was rendered fruitless.

It is not to be supposed, however, that any fiction of this kind could long remain before an intelligent community like ours, without a public exposition of its true character. It was soon generally denounced as "a hoax" by the public press, but not until nearly every press in the country had become its captivated victim. And even this denunciation was for a long time popularly regarded as a mere matter of opinion, for it was entirely unsustained by external circumstantial evidence, while the internal evidence was too scanty, and of too recondite a texture either for editorial use or popular appreciation. We remember that the most prevalent editorial argument against the credibility of the story, from internal evidence, was, that it was an "established scientific impossibility to magnify a shadow," than which no assumption can be more fallacious, since every man wearing spectacles well knows that the shadow of any object projected upon any surface whatever is equally magnified with the body which it represents, and from which it is derived. And this was Mr. Locke's great principle of mystification. It will be seen, on reperusing his description of the new Herschel telescope, that he magnified the shadow, or "focal object" of his mammoth lens, as projected upon a receiving screen, or tympan, like that of a camera obscura, by means of a hydro-oxygen telescope of almost unlimited power, and in the same manner that the solar picture in a daguerreotype may be indefinitely magnified, developed, and rendered most exquisitely distinct, by means either of that or any other magnifying instrument. In fact, the optical process, suggested in this part of the "Moon Story," with some slight modifications, and so far as its mere magnifying and "distinctifying" functions are concerned, remains unexploded, and open to experiment to the present hour. Indeed, it is honestly entitled to consideration, in many respects, as an anticipation, to no small extent, of the daguerreotype discovery, for it teaches the important principle, now fully verified, that focal objects, whether permanently fixed or merely transient, after being received on any surface, may be further magnified, and rendered, at the same time, more distinct, when exposed to additional or artificial light. The realization of this fact, in relation to the telescopic image, is a *desideratum*, in optical astronomy, worthy of the profoundest research; and it is not surprising that its plausible assumption in Mr. Locke's "Moon Story" should have taken even scientific men by surprise, and found them unprepared with an immediate refutation of its possibility. The chief error standing in connection with it, and which was at once obvious to all men of true optical science, was the alleged preservation of the *colours* of the focal spectra, or images, of the original objects, after they had been subjected to artificial light, and a second time magnified, without receiving any additional light from the objects themselves, from which alone their colours could have been derived. But our editorial critics fathomed none of these valid objections; and those few men of science, to whom they were apparent and palpable, enjoyed the ingenious joke too richly to interfere with it, even if they had been disposed to condescend to its formal refutation.

But it is by no means certain that the author ever intended his imaginative discoveries to operate upon the public mind as a hoax. Indeed, it is familiarly known to his private friends, that when he found his narrative was really received in this manner, he expressed much disappointment and chagrin, saying: "If the story be either received as a veritable account, or rejected as a hoax, it is quite evident that it is an abortive satire; and, in either case, I am the best self-hoaxed man in the whole community." When, however, it became generally construed, or, rather, mis-construed, as an intended hoax, the greater part of the public press throughout the country freely admitted the high ability of the author, whoever he might prove to be; and many eulogized him as one of the most inventive, accomplished and brilliant writers of the age. Others, less generous, denounced him, with equal vehemence, as a charlatan in science, and an impostor in principle, deserving unmitigated execration. But it was not immediately that the author's name was known in connection with it. This was first announced by Mr. James Gordon Bennett, then, as now, the lynx-eyed editor of the *New York Herald*; and we remember that one of the points of evidence which he adduced, in corroboration of his disclosure, was that Mr. Locke, shortly before the publication of his lunar discoveries, had held a private conversation with him on the subject of optics, in which many of the novel principles developed in the "Moon Story" had been freely discussed. To this statement Mr. Locke replied the same day, in a short letter which appeared in the *Evening Star*, in which he denied, not exactly, like Sir Walter Scott, the entire authorship imputed to him, but that he had "made those discoveries," which he doubtless hoped would produce the same effect as a positive denial, in an absolute and categorical form. He further denied that he had, at any time, held a conversation with Mr. Bennett on the subject of optics; and, in illustration of the intrinsic improbability of his having done so, he closed his very brief letter by a peculiarly touching appeal to public candour: "Only think of two editors of rival journals, squinting so curiously and contradictorily as we undeniably do, meeting in private, by special appointment, to put our noses together, and discuss optics!" This appeal to public risibility was worth a thousand grave arguments and asseverations; and our author having thus got the popular laugh on his side, left the question of authorship to its own fate on the tide of events.

In the course of a few weeks, there was an arrival of mails from Europe, which, instead of exploding and exploding, these "great astronomical discoveries, lately made by Sir John Herschel at the Cape of Good Hope," as made been confidently predicted, seemed at once to confirm them! The English and French journals were full of them; and in no instance, by *that* arrival, were they attributed to an American source! This was marvellous; the champions of the "Moon Story" marched with high feathers, and regarded their skeptical opponents with pity and contempt. The only cloud which in any degree threatened the splendour of the triumph, appeared feebly and obscurely in some of the leading French journals, and for this they cared but little, especially as it seemed to escape the notice of their adversaries. The *Constitutionnel*, and some other Paris papers, contained reports of an elaborate and energetic debate in the French Academy of Sciences, occupying several columns, upon the authenticity and credibility of the alleged lunar discoveries at the Cape of Good Hope. The illustrious and venerable Arago, the President of the Academy, invited the grave attention of his learned associates to the subject, inasmuch as the Edinburgh publication, purporting to be an authentic report of these extraordinary discoveries, appeared to be a wanton and malevolent attack upon his illustrious friend, Sir John Herschel, who, of all men living, ought to be regarded as sacred from the assaults of ridicule, and whom it was the solemn duty of that body to protect from its envenomed shafts. He was at that moment, and had been for years, engaged in enormous and, doubtless, immortal labours in the cause of science, and thence of mankind, in a remote region of the earth; and it was most atrocious that he should be subjected to the deliberate ridicule, and those labours to the elaborate burlesque, of this pretended report of them. That he (Arago) was not mistaken in this view of the character and object of this publication, would be evident from the translation of it which he held in his hand, and which he begged permission to read to them.

Accordingly, it was read to the assembled academicians, from beginning to end, amid repeated interruptions from uncontrollable and uproarious laughter, which the venerable President, who is represented as evidently sincere in his indignation, vainly endeavoured to suppress. After an irresistibly comic debate, in which Frenchmen so well know how to indulge, and which was protracted to an extent most unusual in such a body, they gravely adopted the resolution, more exquisitely comic than any other they could have passed, that although the alleged lunar discoveries were not to be regarded as a malicious attack upon the illustrious astronomer to whom they were ascribed, yet they must be pronounced by that body *utterly incredible!*

This absurd serio-comic scene in the Academy of Sciences afforded a perfect harvest to the Parisian caricaturists, who filled the print shops with their ludicrous and satirical productions upon the subject. It was even hit at in the vignettes to pieces of music. Stray man-bats from the moon were depicted sitting in woful plight under the dripping offices of the Boulevards; while others, who had evidently been imbibing drops of something more comfortable, were to be seen in the custody of *gens d'arms*, singing jolly ditties to the tune of "*La clair de la Lune.*" But in order to account for the absence of all allusion to the New York origin of the lunar discoveries at that time in the French and English journals, it may be necessary to state that the shrewd proprietors of the *Sun* had caused numerous copies of the pamphlet, without any American imprint or indication, to be despatched, through resident agents, to all the principal papers in London, Edinburgh and Paris; and although they doubtless received detached and fragmentary extracts of the story in the American papers at the same time they naturally preferred copying it from the pamphlet, where it was presented entire, to the labour of selection and compilation. So that whether they were hoaxed themselves or not, they too well knew the value of the narrative, as matter of interest to their readers, to expose its American origin, even if they were really apprised of it. As evidence of this conclusion, even the Edinburgh papers, where it must instantly have been known as a hoax, published it with all the gravity and reserve of a synod or counsel of sages.

From England and France these glorious and astounding discoveries sped their welcome way through Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal, and were translated into all the languages. We have recently been assured, in the most serious manner, that in many of the interior parts of Germany, and of the continent generally, they remain uncontradicted to the present day, and are believed, like sacred and delightful truths, by vast numbers of the population. Of all people, however, the Italians appear to have been the most heartily amused with them; and we have seen numerous large lithographic prints that were brought from Naples by one of our naval officers, in which the lunar scenes and inhabitants, as described by the imaginative author, are depicted in exaggerative and comic association, with infinite skill and humour. In our own grave country, the effect was less lively, and took rather a religio-comic turn; in ridicule of which, the celebrated Miss Martineau, who was travelling in the United States at the time, declares, in her "Sketches of Western Travel," that the effect of the "Moon Story" upon the ladies of Springfield, Mass., was to induce them, with all speed, to set going a liberal subscription towards sending *missionaries* to that interesting but benighted luminary, for the conversion of the man-bats—a proposition, it must be confessed, but little less practicable or hopeful than that of Dr. Dick for accomplishing the same object, by demonstrating to them the truths of Christianity in a series of geometrical diagrams, exhibited in immense structures of stone.

In New York and other principal cities, as also in those of Europe, these burlesque lunar discoveries were at length rendered a source of public amusement, by various methods of scenic representation. The ingenious Hannington exhibited the best scenes of the story in a series of beautiful dioramas, which were highly popular; and the subject was very effectively dramatized at the Bowery Theatre, in a gorgeous comic spectacle. But the chief and most general amusement which it afforded, and to some extent, still affords, was in domestic and social conversation between those who professed to have been too wise and wary to be deceived, and those who frankly avowed their entire credulity. Among the latter were many of the best educated persons in the community, who still find employment in rallying a long list of fellow-victims in the circles of their acquaintance, and in relating innumerable anecdotes illustrative of the common epidemic of enthusiastic credence which for a while prevailed.

But we cannot close this cursory glance at the incidents attending this remarkable production without including that of its first reception by Sir John Herschel himself, at the Cape of Good Hope. It was presented to him personally, both in the New York papers and in the pamphlet form, by Mr. Cabel Weeks, of Jamaica, Long Island, on his visit to the Cape, for the purpose of obtaining giraffes and other rare animals from the interior of South Africa, for the magnificent menagerie of which he was then a proprietor. It appears that the illustrious astronomer was in the habit of seeking relaxation from his severe labours and studies at his observatory, in almost daily visits to Cape Town, where, in the back parlour of a snug hotel, he obtained the earliest news from Europe and America, and enjoyed his English pipe. One of Mr. Weeks' first inquiries, on his arrival at the same hotel was as to where Sir John Herschel could be found in that vicinity, and he was delighted to receive the answer that the renowned astronomer was then in the house, and would, no doubt, from his known inability, cordially receive any gentleman from the United States, who might wish to see him. On being introduced to him, Mr. Weeks, who is well known as a wag both of extraordinary gravity and hilarity, said he begged the honour of presenting him with the American report of his "great astronomical discoveries." Sir John replied, with an air evincing some surprise, that he should feel much obliged for any information from the United States; but of anything relating to himself, or his astronomical pursuits, he could not readily conceive, inasmuch as he himself had made no report upon the subject. Mr. Weeks confidently remarked that it must, nevertheless, have "got wind" in some way or other, for here was the "full and particular account" in print, "and no mistake"—at the same time presenting him with Mr. Locke's pamphlet and files of the New York papers, and then bowing himself out of the parlour. Rejoining the party composing his expedition, in the public room, Mr. Weeks quietly observed that if the astronomer, great as he was said to be, didn't learn more about the moon than he ever knew before, he must be a "darnation smart man." But in a few minutes, Sir John appeared there himself, and, addressing Mr. Weeks in a tone of excited interest, said—"This is a most extraordinary affair! Pray what does it mean? Is this really a reprint of an Edinburgh publication, or an elaborate hoax by some person in New York?" To these interrogatories Mr. Weeks replied that he "really couldn't say. All that he knew about it was, that every word of the story was taken for gospel in New York, and throughout the United States; and it was a maxim that 'what everybody says must be true.'" At this Sir John laughed very heartily, and inviting Mr. Weeks and his friends to a more private room, requested them to state the popular effect which the narrative had really produced. With the description which Mr. Weeks gave him, and which was, no doubt, full of the exquisite dry humour for which he is well known, the learned astronomer was incessantly and uncontrollably astonished and amused; and he renewed his inquiries from day to day, as long as Mr. Weeks remained in the town—directing them particularly towards the author, and his reputation, in other respects, as a writer. In one of these interviews he good-naturedly remarked that he "feared the actual results of his telescopic observations at the Cape would be very humble in popular estimation, at least, in comparison with those ascribed to him in the American account, as he was unfortunately unprovided with any such instrument as it admitted to be necessary to achieve them." And he was particularly amused with that satirical point in the story which stated that he had been indebted, for that stupendous instrument, to the royal munificence of the late William IV., when it is well known that Sir John Herschel undertook and sustained its scientific expedition to the Cape, with all its expensive instruments and attendants, with his own private means, and without any assistance whatever from the government. And to this fact it should now be added, in justice to his high-minded and disinterested motives, that when, after an absence of four years, he returned to England, rich only in the immortal honour of his unexampled labours—the complete and exact survey of the whole southern celestial hemisphere—the government queen offered him a full pecuniary indemnity for his expenses, he respectfully declined to accept it.

MODERN RELIGIOUS JOURNALISM.

The *Patriot* of Thursday last, in a brief *resumé* of the progress of the agitation against the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sundays, has the following passage: "Thus, as her Majesty and her Majesty's Ministers will see, all Protestant Evangelical denominations are united in this appeal and remonstrance *The only active support of a quasi-religious character tendered to the directors of the New Crystal Palace comes from a Latitudinarian, not to say a Rationalistic quarter.*" These words supply us with a text on which to make a few observations on the morality of "modern religious journalism."

On Wednesday last we felt it to be our duty to state some reasons for not joining with many of our friends in seeking, on religious grounds, to interpose between the world and the world's Sunday amusements, a barrier of law. On the Thursday following the above sentence was published. We cannot say with certainty that it was believed at the *Nonconformist*. Nevertheless, those readers of the *Patriot* who may chance to have read our article of the day before, would have sufficient grounds for the conclusion that the reference of the passage was to it and us. The exception pointed out is an exception to "all *Protestant Evangelical* denominations"—the *only* exception—and an exception "of a quasi-religious character." *We* should object to this description of our journal as inaccurate, but we cannot doubt that the conductors of the *Patriot*, and, perhaps, most of its readers, would regard it as precise. That we "tendered" any "active support to the directors of the New Crystal Palace," we should characterize as a misrepresentation—but we have reason to believe that it would suit the purpose of this writer so to describe our object, and that his purpose being suited, it was a matter of no deep concern to him that the description is untrue. We take it for granted that when he penned the above sentence, he had seen our remarks on the subject, published the day before—and if so, we conclude that he must have had an eye to us, inasmuch as he speaks of a single exception to the unanimity of Protestant Evangelical denominations. So that, on the whole, placing his language alongside of the facts of the case, the readers of the *Patriot* would be likely enough to judge, and would be justified in judging, that the rebuke was administered to us. True, we are not named—and, perhaps, to-morrow, it will be pretended that we were not meant. Should such be the case, we beg to ask the writer three questions—First, *who was* referred to in the above passage? Secondly, if, when he wrote it, he had or had not read our observations on the question? And lastly, if he had, and if he intended to point to some other party, why he spoke of him as the *only* advocate on the other side of the question, why he designated his support quasi-religious," and why he referred to it as an exceptional case among "Protestant Evangelical denominations?"

If we are wrong in supposing that the article in last week's *Nonconformist* is referred to in the passage above quoted, let the blame rest where it should. It is not due to us, but to the cowardly practice of throwing out insinuations without daring to say whom they are intended to stigmatise, but which are put into a shape which will constrain nine readers out of ten to refer them to the same quarter.

"Latitudinarian, not to say Rationalistic." This, then, is the brief answer vouchsafed to our argument of last week. A few words of comment may be allowed, we hope.

The object of the writer in the employment of these words could only have been to neutralize our reasoning, by defaming our character. Were we to ask him what meaning he attaches to these epithets, and in what special respects they are descriptive of us, we imagine that he would find the answer, if he found it at all, anywhere but at hand. It was not that he meant to be precise, but severe—not that he wished to discriminate, but simply to blacken. The words he uses are cant terms of reproach which, because they are vague in themselves, excite most horror. In that system, whereof the *Patriot* is a luminary, and wherein religion is a thing of Shibboleths, conventionalisms, forms, straitness of creed, and laxity of principle, "Latitudinarian, not to say Rationalistic," means the last extreme of intellectual depravity, to which abyss he that is unhappy enough to have sunk must consider himself outlawed from the courtesies of controversy, and from the charities of ecclesiastical piety—where, while he wanders, he must expect to be shunned as a pestilence, screamed at as a toad, trodden upon as an earwig, banned as a witch—where "religious" editors may justifiably play foul tricks with him, blast his future usefulness if they can, misrepresent his purposes, suppress his explanations, attribute to him the meanest motives, and refuse him the justice and even-handedness, which they would most patriotically claim for a pickpocket or a felon. The true meaning of the epithet is, "not of our set"—and the effect of applying them is exclusion from mercy, or justice, or charity, or common civility, amongst "our set." Woe be to him who thinks out of the groove of "our set!" Is he a writer? he shall be clamoured down, or what is better, burked by silence. Is he a minister? his character shall be whispered away. Is he a politician? he shall be blackballed everywhere as far as the "set" can do it. Certainly, no man who has the smallest atom of self-respect will care much for exile from this small coterie of the religious world—but still it is the heaviest penalty which it is in the power of the *Patriot* to inflict—and, accordingly, he uses respecting us the language which is meant to shut us out hereafter from the sympathies, and even the good-will of the "Protestant Evangelical denominations."

The reasons upon which this writer founds his charge against us, he does not deem it worth his while to give. *We* know what the accusation really means, and laugh at it—but there are hundreds as he is well aware, who will regard it as equivalent to the brand of infidelity. Now, if we had not written enough in our brief time to impress our friends with the idea that we *profess* opinions far enough removed from modern scepticism, we could have been well content to let this charge pass for what it was worth—but the insinuation is that, spite of our public professions, our private creed verges closely on unbelief. Let the writer of the article make good his assertion. No matter how he may have come at his knowledge, we pledge ourselves to absolve all parties concerned if he will fairly out with it. We challenge him to give the facts upon which his description of us rests. If he does not answer this challenge, directly and explicitly, we tell him that he is endeavouring to write up an ostensibly religious object, by the aid of deliberate calumny.

"Latitudinarian, if not Rationalistic." We carefully aimed, in our last weeks article, to put our argument into as inoffensive a shape as possible. We tried to keep close to the point in discussion—and although our train of reasoning may have been weak, it seemed to us to merit a reply, if not for its own sake, at least in deference to the importance of the issue. It seems we were mistaken. These eminently "religious" agitators are much too zealous to listen to aught which militates against their decision. Reason with them, and they malign you—calmly state your grounds of conscientious conviction, and they slander you—take pains to vindicate your judgment, and they hurl at you two or three of the most damaging epithets they can pick up. This is easy work, at any rate. It does not require much brains. It scarcely taxes a man's moral courage. It wants nothing but a sufficient amount of impudence, thinly veiled by denominational cant. Not enough! If, we have dwelt longer than is our wont upon what is personal to ourselves, it is that we may bring out the more vividly the practical moral for the sake of which we have chosen to give prominence to so intrinsically despicable a subject. To this we earnestly request the reader's attention for a few moments longer.

We say, much "more in sorrow than in anger," that the average morality of the journalism of our day calling itself "religious," is one of the worst scandals of the evangelical denominations. It happens to us to have been compelled to watch it narrowly, and whilst we cheerfully admit that there are honourable exceptions, we aver, with all seriousness, that for unfairness, untruthfulness, meanness, cowardice, and all the worst vices of reckless partisanship, we know of nothing outmatching our "religious newspapers." Their flattery of their patrons is fulsome, servile, and sickening—they lay it on with a trowel. The young, the inexperienced, and the weak, if found walking in the ways of independence, and, may be, folly, they crush with cruelty, and stifle all cries of remonstrance. In their reports of public meetings they suppress whatever is unfavourable to their own views, describe incidents as may best suit them, or, bend facts to their *own* inclinations. They misstate without compunction. They abuse without discrimination. They puff without modesty. And they arrogate to themselves a monopoly of religious motive. All these vices, unfortunately, are then most in excess, when the object pursued is seemingly most nearly allied to the interests of Christianity. There was a day when men who panted for "innocent blood," were so zealous of strict ritual observances, that they scrupled to defile themselves by entering a Gentile court of law on the eve of a Passover Sabbath. So now, when the Pharisaism of the press is most punctilious in regard to "ordinances," it is least careful in regard to moral principles. It is shocked at the impiety of allowing the world to exercise, unrestricted by law, its own liberty, in relation to Christian institutions, but it is not in the least backward to assassinate reputation by a slinking shot, if necessary and possible. It will not permit men to spend the Sundays as they may prefer—but it will suffer, nay, it will prompt to, the origination and circulation of calumnies piously intended to neutralise the force of reasonings, which it is either too indolent, or incapable, to refute. "The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are we," is never loudly shouted in the ears of society, but you may be sure that morality is in danger—and, for ourselves, we look to be more honourably dealt with by the most commercial and non-professing paper going, than by some of the most unctuous of the religious press. Their delinquencies are not known to the exclusive circles in which these journals move—but we will be bound for it that there are few men of honourable feeling, of any sect or party, whose duty or whose taste may lead them to watch the section of the press to which we have alluded, in whose nostrils our *soidisant* religious newspapers are not an intolerable offence. Reader, we believe in Christianity, and because we do so, we do *not* believe in these loud-speaking, but unworthy, guardians of its interests. We love the gospel—we detest cant. We hope we *value* religious truth—but we also value practical truthfulness.—(*London*) *Nonconformist.*

THE CÆSARS AT DINNER.

Julius Cæsar exceeded even our 'great Duke' in his indifference respecting what was placed before him. Out of politeness he could eat sweet ointment for sauce when his host was unable to procure oil. Augustus, on the other hand, loved pleasant dinner parties, particularly when he and his guests were attired as gods and goddesses, and proceeded not only to feast, but to act like unclean Olympians. Augustus, however, was no gross feeder, he preferred eating when he was hungry, whether the hour for the repast had arrived or not; and he often sat down at the banquet without tasting the food for which he no longer had any appetite. To him, brown bread, small fish, green cheese, and green figs, formed a meal for an emperor. Cato the Censor said that Julius was the only man of strictly sober habits who ever attempted to overthrow the government. Augustus was as temperate as Julius, but his moderation rested on a physical reason—his stomach could not retain liquids. He was given to sleep after eating, and his digestion was nothing improved by the indulgence. He made change of rations a military punishment, and when any of his legions turned faint-hearted, he immediately put them upon a regimen of barley. As for Tiberius, he was never temperate in anything, save in eating. He often dined publicly on cold meat, as a reproof to fashionable gastronomic extravagance. But he was a terrible hard drinker, and in allusion to this propensity, the wits twisted his triple name into *Biberius Caldrus Mero*. He loved drinking in others as well as the practice of it in himself; and he once made a man a quæstor for no better reason than that the thirsty fellow could drink three pints of wine at a draught. He grew talkative as he became inebriated, but if any of his guests happened to outshine him in conversation, the luckless wit received orders to kill himself! This proceeding must have rendered the dinner circle of Tiberius 'deadly lively;' and yet he was sprightly in his way, and would puzzle his friends by asking questions similar to those which a witty weekly satirist is wont to promulgate, viz.: 'What is the leg of a multiplication table made of?" One of the imperial queries was, 'The name of the favourite song sung by the sirens?' I may add that his table-talk wasn't carried on in the fashionable Greek, like that of Augustus. He spoke stout, honest Latin; and, like Julius, sat his Greek and Roman officers at different tables. The admiration of these was sometimes excited by the exhibition of a feat he was proud to perform—namely, running a finger of his left hand through a hard green apple. Had he never done worse, posterity might have blessed him.

Caligula, at feeding time, was as proud a beast as his consular horse, which he fed on gilded oats. If we could fancy the Nestore of the Lords and Commons changing her Majesty's plate at dinner, and standing behind the guests of the banquet-room, duly aproned and napkined, we may have some idea of the hall of Caligula, when the senators, with cloth in hand, and their loins girded, did the office of waiters. When we recollect what this emperor did for his horse, we find no cause for wonder that he eat his own bread covered with gilding—the very thought of which calls up remembrances of 'Bartlemy' and Greenwich; and that his favourite beverage was a solution of barbaric pearls in doubly-refined vinegar. To walk and roll himself on heaps of gold was the post-prandial exercise of this exemplary individual.

Claudius was the first 'Prince Francais' (he was born at Lyons) who invaded Britain. He was a huge feeder, with appetite so gross, that even when he was engaged in the forum, he would sometimes be so excited by the smell of the meat in the adjacent temple of the sacrificing Salian priests, that he would rush from the tribunal and join those respectable clergymen in devouring the viands on the altar.

Nero was not remarkable either for excess or moderation at table. Galen was a gouty glutton, eating immoderately, from early dawn, of the very cheapest meats. He once burst into tears at seeing his table suitably laid out for a party; and when his steward showed him the imperial hill of fare, the small soul of this brief emperor silently reproved the servant, by directing his attention to a dish of boiled peas. Otho was far more profuse. At once effeminate and wasteful, he used to smear his face with a cosmetic never heard of by Mr. Atkinson; it consisted of white bread soaked in asses milk; and he used enough of it at a time to feed a whole family. But Otho was an 'exquisite' in his way, and could not be controlled in his tastes. His was splay footed, indeed, and the awkward structure of his toes was the despair of his sandal-maker. On the other hand, or, as I may be excused for saying, on the other *head*, the natural finish of his toupee was the admiration of the fashionable quarter of Rome. Otho was the best bewigged prince in the empire. The only man of his time that could be compared with him was the father of his successor, Vitellius. This accomplished gentleman knew but of one kaldor worth the using, and it was made up of his mistress's saliva mixed with honey! The most fervent of modern lovers would hardly be induced to adopt the receipt. But there was something unsavory in the natural constitution of the members of this house. Vitellius, the emperor, could not pass through the streets without snatching the fragments of meat that lay on the cooks' stalls; and he was so irreverend a worshipper that he could not stand before an altar without filching the viands and devouring the barley that was destined for the gods. I do not know that I can better describe his life when he was not employed in stealing, in slaying, or in sleeping, than by saying that when he was not eating he was, by the action of emetics, restoring to his stomach an appetite and capacity for food. The entire man is seen in the fact, that when he was compelled to fly for his life, the only companions he chose to accompany him were his cook and the baker. To 'eat much meat' was an achievement that as satisfactorily proved the greatness of Vitellius as it did the divinity of Baal. So thoroughly animal was the former, that even the odour of a dead enemy he classed among the pleasantest of smiles. Vespasian, too, his successor, unlike him in appetite, could joke upon smells. When a perfumed young officer once presented himself for orders, the offended emperor, who winged him, angrily remarked, 'I had rather you had stunk of garlic.' So when his son Titus asked him if he found nothing repulsive in receiving the tax which he had fixed upon a certain nameless commodity, '*Non olet*,' said the avaricious Vespasian—"It does not smell." Perhaps the fame of this joke may have emboldened the wit, who ventured to make one to the emperor upon the well-known half-crouching position which was one of the imperial peculiarities. It must be told, however, in the words of the graphic Tranquillus: Unde quidam urbanorum, non infacete, si quidem pejenti, ut et in se aliquid picaret. Dicam, inquis, cum ventrum exonerate desieris.' It is astonishing that such a jest could be made at the expense of a man on whose nod hung the life of the joker. To return to the table: let me add that one day in every month the imperial kitchen chimneys ceased to smoke—at least for Vespasian. The economical despot used to say that a monthly fast for a day was good for his health, and saved him the expense of a physician.

Both the sons of Vespasian were exceedingly temperate at table. Titus in his youth had indeed lived a life of intemperance, but he had no sooner girded the imperial dagger on his thigh than he 'forswore sack and lived cleanly.' As for his brother Domitian, he could sup on a Malien apple, quaff a single cup, 'and that craftily qualified too,' and, addressing himself to rest, think calmly as to whom the indulgent gods would help him to slay on the morrow.—*Gentleman's Magazine* (*London*).

Gleanings from Foreign Publications.

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